Bridge Capital begins reconstruction of bus shelters. PAGE 2
Rota mayor wants private company to take over Pinatang Park. PAGE 6

Hafa Adai!

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'Rota economy on the upswing'

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

ROTA—Two investors are seriously interested in putting up businesses on the island and there are many indicators that their economy is on the upswing, according to Rota Mayor Efraim M. Atalig.

» Mayor says 2 investors interested to build a hotel, put up eco-tourism industry

In an interview on Friday, Atalig noted an increase in the number of flights to Rota since last year and he expects to see a further increases this year.

Star Marianas, Arctic Circle, and Cape Air have been

See ROTA on Page 4

JON PEREZ

Weather Forecast Office in Guam warning coordination meteorologist Charles "Chip" Guard facilitates a workshop to the members of the CNMI media last week at the CNMI Office of Homeland Security Emergency Management.

NMI contributed 6 typhoon names

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

A uniformed typhoon naming system by the World Meteorological Organization had been in place since Jan. 1, 2000, with the CNMI contributing six names, one of which was already retired. The organization designated the Japan Meteorological Agency as the Regional Specialized Meteorological Center that distributes advisories, information, and warnings in the region.

The naming system was adopted in the Typhoon Committee meeting's 31st session in Manila, the Philippines, for international navigation in the Western North Pacific and South Chine Sea regions. The JMA is responsible in naming typhoons based on the arrangement and names submitted by the 14 nations in the region.

The CNMI had contributed

See TYPHOON on Page 4

In debate, Trump signals aggressive close to his campaign

By JULIE PACE and CATHERINE LUCEY
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON (AP)—His presidential campaign in peril, Donald Trump left no doubt he'll spend the final weeks before the election dredging up decades-old sexual allegations against Hillary Clinton's husband, even if it turns off voters whose support he desperately needs.

Faced with questions at Sunday's debate about his own vulgar remarks about women, Trump accused Bill Clinton of having been "abusive to women" and said Hillary Clinton attacked those women "viciously." He declared the Democratic nominee had "tremendous hate in her heart."

Clinton tried at times to take the high road, glossing over Trump's charges and accusing him of trying

See DEBATE on Page 4

RELATED NEWS

➤ Local GOP blasts Trump's lewd comments vs women. PAGE 5
➤ 90 minutes of fire: Trump, Clinton trade charges, insults. PAGE 15

NEW RESTAURANT
Triple J officials, along with Gov. Ralph DLG. Torres, second from left, cut the ceremonial ribbon to announce Surf Club's grand opening on Oct. 10.
MICHAEL SANTOS

See story on Page 3.

INSIDE

BUSINESS
Samsung Electronics has temporarily halted production of its Galaxy Note 7 smartphones.
PAGE 14

WORLD
Helicopters are ferrying in food and medicine to devastated southwestern Haiti.
PAGE 17

OVERDRIVE
The garage door flips up at Virgil Pletcher's house and it's time to get down with one of the coolest cars ever made.
PAGE 19

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Local

Bridge Capital begins reconstruction of bus shelters

By MICHAEL T. SANTOS
michaeljan.t.santos@gmail.com
REPORTER

MICHAEL SANTOS
Bridge Capital LLC officials led by CEO John K. Baldwin join Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang in one of the newly rehabilitated bus shelters.

Bridge Capital LLC officials and employees gathered Friday to celebrate the first of many school bus shelters that will be rebuilt by the investment company across the island.

"We're making a commitment to do three in this village [Tanapag], but up to 20 on the island," said Bridge Capital CEO John K. Baldwin.

Bridge Capital is an international investor that makes loans and invests projects in the United States, along with various other companies.

Established in 2004, Bridge Capital has worked generally on real-estate projects but has also been involved in agricultural work and others of varying kinds. "We are a lender and an investor in both regional and international projects where we see opportunity," Baldwin said.

"I think the Marianas has gone through a very bad time over the last, say, 10 years. Now things are getting better and I think we really have a bright future. Bright for our people, bright for the children, and hopefully we can gradually bring in more opportunities in the future so that they [children] don't actually have to leave the island if they don't want to," Baldwin explained.

When asked about any "bumps" in the road or any form of problem to derail their project, Baldwin happily replied with a no. "All procedures went smoothly and I can't say we [Bridge Capital] had any form of issues that are worth mentioning."

Also present during the ceremony was Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang. The mayor, who has been in office since 2015, has a strong passion for the rehabilitation projects on Saipan.

When asked about the treatment of bus shelters, Apatang replied, "I really appreciate what Bridge Capital is doing. Like the other companies on the island, they're [Bridge Capital] taking the lead to help beautify kids' shelters. I just called Bridge Capital one day to see if they could contribute with the shelters and they were more than happy to help out."

Apatang wishes to simply continue maintaining bus shelters for children to allow proper and sanitary cover whenever children, or any pedestrian, wishes to take shelter from the rain or scorching heat.

Island's newest restaurant, Surf Club, officially opens

By MICHAEL T. SANTOS
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REPORTER

Officials and staff of Triple J Enterprises as well as their close friends and families gathered for the ribbon cutting on Sunday for the official opening of the island's newest restaurant, Surf Club. Located at the former site of the Pacific Gardenia restobar, Surf Club, currently under the management of general manager Kono Ryohei, has been having soft openings for several weeks but the wait was finally over on Oct. 9, 2016.

The event consisted of several people of interest speaking, including of Triple J chairman and CEO Robert H. Jones, vice president of finance and business administration Mike Sablan, Gov. Ralph DLG. Torres, and father Ken Jones. Following their remarks was the ribbon cutting, with food and refreshments being made available to all guests soon after.

"We got the name of Surf Club from all the surfers out here. Over the years, we've lived next door and have watched them all the time. So what better way to recognize these surfers other than naming this place after them?" Robert H. Jones explained.

He said he wished to create a restaurant that not only invites tourists who are looking to have a good time, but also caters to local residents. "We are developing the menu, trying to attract all the local residents that are interested in having a nice evening by the beach. …You will find a menu that has chicken kelaguen, shrimp kelaguen, beef kelaguen, and all those things on it, all intended to satisfy locals as well as tourists." Jones added.

Working with Triple J for about eight years now, Sablan said he has witnessed the extent of economic growth his company has created on Saipan. Citing the opening of Bubba Gump, Surf Club, Outback restaurant hotel and other small projects, he said, "This is just a reflection of the Jones family's commitment to Saipan and the CNMI."

"This is a local project, not a franchise project. A lot of us worked together to build this restaurant not just from the construction side but from the theme side as well. It is a result of our collective effort," Sablan added.

Torres thanked the Jones family and offered his support for their new project. "For the staff and on behalf of the administration, I would like to personally say thank you to the Jones family for bringing the investment here. The type of investment you're bringing in is actually a blessing for me and the people of the CNMI and brings more opportunity for the tourists."

Iliana Pacheco, marketing manager at Triple J, said, "I am so excited for this restaurant 'cause it [Surf Club] looks amazing and feels amazing. I mean, the windows retract so we can open them completely. We have private cabanas for private parties and events, and there's also a beach shower, so you can go to the beach to surf, swim, or just hang out and can come right in for a drink or snack soon after washing up. So it's really one of the only places on island where you can do all of this" when asked about her thoughts of Surf Club being built.

She described the ambiance of Surf Club as a "casual beach environment, but also nice enough to bring someone you want to impress without even having to dress up."

Triple currently has over 300 employees on Saipan and approaching a thousand collectively. About 60 men were used to create the building under the supervision of Mario Valentino, superintendent of construction for Triple J. The restaurant is currently located on San Isidro Ave.

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Karidat's Dela Cruz is awarded Bridge of Light

The Bridge of Light Award was presented to Karidat counselor Elaine Dela Cruz during the Domestic Violence Awareness Month proclamation signing last Sept. 29 at the Saipan World Resort.

The award is presented to an outstanding individual in recognition of the efforts and public services provided in advocating against domestic violence.

Dela Cruz said she feels honored to receive such an award while working with people she considers to be her heroes.

"I just want to say that I am humbled, blessed and grateful that I work among a bunch of heroes, the law enforcement and our first responders. Your passion and commitment to this movement against domestic violence is untiring," said Dela Cruz.

She also thanked her significant other for supporting her throughout the years.

"I am also very blessed because I have a wonderful support system. We can't do this right without the support system. Thank you to my husband, Joey," she said.

If there is one thing Dela Cruz wants to say to the community, it is to be involved.

"Just to be there, just to listen. There are a lot of things that we can do as a community. We don't have to be a service provider. We could just be an ear, just lend a hand and watch someone's kids," said Dela Cruz.

"This movement is not over. Karidat Social Services, Guma Esperanza, and the shelters for families are all open 24 hours a day. The number is 234-5100, and we're here to provide services every single day of the year," she said.

Maisie Tenorio said the Bridge of Light Award is intended "to let the community know that there are people out there working hard for their safety and protection." ***(Erwin Encinares)***

Master blacksmith visits NMC and Tinian

Master blacksmith Francisco Lizama is returning once again to the CNMI today for multiple cultural presentations highlighting the ancient art of blacksmithing. First, he will be at the Northern Marianas College Proa Center Building today, at 11am to 12pm, accompanied by Dr. Michael Bevacqua.

Later today, Lizama would be going to Tinian, also to do a blacksmithing presentation at the Tinian Public Library in San Jose Tinian, from 3pm to 4pm.

The events today are open to the public.

Lizama was also invited by the Saipan Southern High School to do another blacksmithing presentation for the students tomorrow from 1:30pm to 3:30pm.

Lizama wants to preserve and revive the blacksmithing culture through presentations aimed at sparking interest of the students.

There were presentations that were held on Rota last Oct. 7 and 8 at the Chamorro Village, Songsong. ***(Erwin Encinares)***

Betel nut law education before implementation

Before implementing its regulations, the Department of Commerce would first start educating the community on Public Law 19-65 or the law that prohibits the sale of areca nut (betel nut) to minors

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres signed PL 19-65, introduced by Rep. Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan), last month.

Commerce Secretary Mark O. Rabauliman told Saipan Tribune that they would give the community enough time to adjust since it has only been close to three weeks since it became a law. "It was just recently signed, there still some time for everybody to kind of get adjusted to it."

"What we're doing right now is meeting the ABTC [Alcohol, Betel Nut, and Tobacco Control] director. We're putting our heads together on how are we going to approach this in implementing the law," Rabauliman added.

Dave Maratita is the ABTC director.

Rabauliman said that educating those who sell and consume betel nut is the first step. "[The] first school of thought would be on how we educate the folks that sell it and those who buy it. After that, we do outreach and education, then we go down to enforcement. Because promoting healthy living is the intent of the law."

He added they plan to attend Parent-Teacher-Student Association meetings and other community events to inform the public of the new law. "We're going to go out and let them know that there's a new law in place and we're asking the community's assistance."

Rabauliman said they would most likely use the system that's already in place in regulating alcohol and tobacco when it comes to implementing the prohibition of selling betel nut to minors. "We'll probably be mirroring on how we do alcohol and tobacco regulations."

"I think we're probably approach it like on how we are doing it with alcohol and tobacco. It is an upside down pyramid. We're going to start off with the businesses, go down to the vendors, and the bottom is more of an outreach program in collaboration with the schools," said Rabauliman.

The intention of the bill was to prevent minors from chewing betel nut after studies showed that it increases the risk of oral cancer, which is the third type of cancer that causes death in the CNMI. "[Gov. Ralph DLG] Torres and [Rep.] Deleon Guerrero had very good intentions after a study that came out where oral cancer is associated with betel nut.

"We're going to push for the wellbeing of the youth. [DoC] would regulate or promulgate the regulations and enforcement of [PL 19-65]. We'll be meeting with a team that we put together. It is not about punishing the people but informing and educating them."

The Community Guidance Center would help DoC with its education and information campaigns. "We hope to do more outreach programs and information campaign. Educate them on the do's and don'ts of the law." ***(Jon Perez)***

ROTA

From Page 1

providing flights from Guam and Saipan for the Bisita Luta and Rota fiesta celebrations.

Atalig said a few investors came around and saw improvements in terms of the island's tourism enhancement sites and the cleanliness of the island.

"That make me feel good because [the feedback is] coming from them [investors]," he said.

Atalig disclosed continued efforts to bring in more investors, saying that two investors seem to be serious. Without identifying the two, Atalig hinted that they are leaning more toward building a hotel and engaging in eco-tourism.

"When you see investors, it tells you that we need to make Rota alive in terms of economy," he said, adding that he is also working toward increasing the capacity of skilled workers through trade and vocational training as the island has not enough manpower.

The mayor said he welcomes a casino on the island, but his main focus is eco-tourism.

"But if eco-tourism comes along with a casino, I welcome it. But I want to balance the growth between these two. I don't want put too much growth on casino, perhaps see more emphasis on eco-tourism," Atalig said.

DEBATE

From Page 1

to distract from his political troubles. "Anything to avoid talking about your campaign and the way it's exploding," she said.

Indeed, Trump entered Sunday night's debate facing enormous pressure from the Republican Party and even his own running mate, Indiana Gov. Mike Pence. Numerous Republicans revoked their support for Trump following the release of a 2005 video in which he is heard bragging about how his fame allowed him to "do anything" to women. Clinton said the tape "represents exactly who he is."

For voters appalled by Trump's words, the businessman likely did little to ease their concerns. He denied he had kissed and groped women without their consent, dismissing his comments as "locker room" talk.

But Trump's intensely loyal supporters were likely to be energized by his vigorous criticism of Clinton. He labeled her "the devil" and promised she would "be in jail" if he were president due to her controversial email practices at the State Department. On one substantive matter, Trump acknowledged for the first time that he had paid no federal income taxes for many years.

The debate was the culmination of a stunning stretch in the race for the White House, which began with the surprise release of the video in which Trump is heard describing attempts to have sex with a married woman. The businessman said he wasn't proud of his comments and insisted he had "great respect for women."

The tension between Trump and Clinton was palpable from the start of their 90-minute debate, the second time they have faced off in the presidential campaign. They did not shake hands as they met at center stage.

Trump, who is several inches taller than Clinton, stood close behind her as she answered questions from the voters. At other times, he paced the stage, repeatedly interrupting her and criticizing the moderators.

In a brazen pre-debate move, Trump met with three women who accused the former president of sexual harassment and even rape, then invited them to sit in the debate hall, not far from where Bill Clinton was seated with his family. The former president never faced any criminal charges over the allegations, and a lawsuit over an alleged rape was dismissed. He did settle a lawsuit with one of the women who claimed harassment.

Trump struggled at times to articulate detailed policy proposals, repeatedly dancing around questions about how he would replace President Barack Obama's health care law, a measure he has vowed to repeal.

In a rare public break with his running mate, Trump made clear he did not agree with Pence on how to deal with war-torn Syria. Last week, Pence said the U.S. military should be ready to strike Syrian military targets that are under the command of President Bashar Assad. The threat of military action against the Russia-backed Assad government marks a departure from Trump's preference for a focus on Islamic State targets.

Said Trump, "He and I haven't spoken and I disagree."

Trump's campaign was already struggling before the new video was released, due in part to his uneven performance in the first presidential debate. Many Republicans saw Sunday's showdown as his last best chance to salvage his campaign.

The Trump video overshadowed potentially damaging revelations about Clinton's paid speeches to Wall Street firms. Emails released by WikiLeaks last week showed Clinton told a group that it's acceptable for a president to project differing positions in public and private.

Asked in the debate whether that's "two-faced," Clinton pointed to Abraham Lincoln, saying he did whatever he could to get the 13th Amendment passed, allowing emancipation of the slaves, by lawmakers who did not support African-American equality.

"I was making the point it is hard sometimes to get the Congress to do what you want them to do. That was a great display of presidential leadership."

Rolling his eyes, Trump said, "Now she's blaming the late, great Abraham Lincoln."

In the debate's final moments, the candidates briefly put aside their animosity when asked by a voter if they respected anything about each other.

Clinton said she respected Trump's children, calling them "incredibly able and devoted."

Trump, as if pulling a line directly from the Clinton campaign, called his Democratic opponent a "fighter."

"She doesn't quit, she doesn't give up," he said. "I respect that."

TYPHOON

From Page 1

six on the list of 140 names submitted by Cambodia, China, the Federated States of Micronesia, Hong Kong, Japan, Laos, Macau, Malaysia, North Korea, the Philippines, South Korea, Thailand, and Vietnam.

Warning coordination meteorologist Charles "Chip" Guard of the Weather Forecast Office in Guam said the CNMI contributed Francisco (2013); Higos which means fig in Chamorro (2002, 2008, and 2015); Maria (2006); Matmo (2014); Roke (2011); and Vicente (2005 and 2012).

Vicente was retired in 2012 after leaving a combined damage cost of $332,480,000 affecting China, Laos, Myanmar, the Philippines, Thailand, and Vietnam. The name Lan replaced Vicente on the international list.

Guard, who was on Saipan last week for a media workshop, said a typhoon name is retired if it costs a lot of damage, causes a high number of fatalities, and if the country that made the contribution requests the WMO, through JMA, for its retirement.

WMO members then vote on the request of retirement in the next annual meeting and if adopted, the country has to submit five new names. The members would then vote on which of the new names would be used to replace the one that was retired.

EOC information plans

Joey C. Dela Cruz, the Emergency Operations Center manager of the CNMI Office of Homeland Security Emergency Management, said they have other plans to disseminate information faster. "Here in the CNMI we don't have a mass notification system other than the media [newspaper, radio, and television] pushing out information to the general public."

CNMI radio stations put out weather bulletin based on the information they receive from the authorities while newspapers, the *Saipan Tribune* and the *Marianas Variety*, post updates online and on their social media accounts.

Dela Cruz said last week's media workshop is part of their campaign on how to release information like typhoon warnings to prepare the public. "An informed public would be better prepared. This is the start of educational campaign and outreach program."

He said the National Weather Service in Guam, through Guard, would provide more workshops and classes as part of their partnership.

"Currently we are developing a joint typhoon readiness and catastrophic planning to update the emergency operations plan as well," Dela Cruz added.

Local GOP blasts Trump's lewd comments vs women

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

The local GOP has condemned the remarks made by Republican Party presidential candidate Donald Trump against women. A video and taped recording in 2005 recently surfaced where the businessman-turned-politician used explicit and vulgar language against women.

The CNMI Republican Party, in a statement, said demeaning women is unacceptable, especially in a tightly knit community of Pacific islanders. "It is not in our culture as Pacific islanders to utter or accept comments that demean or disrespect women."

"The CNMI GOP strongly condemns the distasteful and disrespectful remarks made by the party's presidential candidate," said an email from local GOP spokesperson Ivan Blanco, who is also running for one of the six seats for Precinct 3 in the CNMI House of Representatives. "Furthermore, the CNMI GOP and all its candidates are unconditionally committed to stopping sexual harassment/violence in all forms."

Blanco said the CNMI GOP, during the Republican primary, worked hard in ensuring the inclusion of several policies that are important to the insular areas. "The CNMI GOP worked very hard to ensure that policies important to the insular areas were included in the GOP Presidential Campaign Plan."

"This plan, if adopted, will improve our standards of living and ensure a seat at the decision-making table for the CNMI and sister insular islands at the White House."

The GOP, if they retake the White House, would appoint an advisory committee consisting of representatives from the five U.S. territories—American Samoa, the CNMI, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

"We call for the appointment of a Commonwealth and territories advisory committee consisting of representatives from all five U.S. territories," according to the adopted resolution by the national GOP.

"The committee will be integrated into the president's transition team and be tasked with performing a holistic review of all federal regulations affecting the territories and commonwealths."

The advisory committee is separate from the planned appointment of the Special Assistant to the President, who would be the direct representative of the territories to the White House.

"We further call for the appointment of a Special Assistant to the President responsible for day-to-day interaction with the territories and commonwealths. This position will be the direct connection for the Office of Insular Affairs, the citizens of the territories and commonwealths, and the White House."

Trump's latest

Trump, in the taped recording that dates to more than 10 years ago but resurfaced only last week, was having a lewd conversation with then Access Hollywood correspondent Billy Bush. The GOP nominee had drawn some flak for making controversial comments against women.

Several prominent conservatives and GOP members called for Trump to drop out of the presidential race with the campaign nearing its homestretch before U.S. voters troop to the polls on Nov. 8.

Talk show host Hugh Hewitt, Carly Fiorina—who lost the GOP primary nomination to Trump—Republican senators Kelly Ayotte (New Hampshire), Mike Crapo (Idaho), John McCain and Jeff Flake (Arizona), Lisa Murkowski (Alaska), Susan Collins (Maine), and Rob Portman (Ohio), Rep. Martha Roby (Alabama), Alabama Gov. Robert Bentley, and former U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice have called on Trump to withdraw, based on NPR.org and CNN.com reports.

Trump has already issued an apology and said that he won't drop out or quit from the presidential race. Yahoo.com reported that Trump said he's not a perfect person and then diverted the issue to former U.S. President Bill Clinton, whose wife Hillary is running against him.

"I've never said I'm a perfect person nor pretended to be someone that I'm not. I've said and done things I regret and the words released today, on this more than a decade old video, are one of them."

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Remembering the past

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Library of Congress is encouraging people nationwide to collect, preserve, and make accessible the war experiences of the nation's war veterans.

The presentation for the Veteran's History Project created by the United States Congress was headed by independent scholar and former UCLA instructor Luisa Del Giudice last Oct. 8 at the American Memorial Park Visitors Center.

Veterans who want to participate in the VHP could do so by sharing their stories through interviews of 30 minutes or more or sending original documents to the Library of Congress.

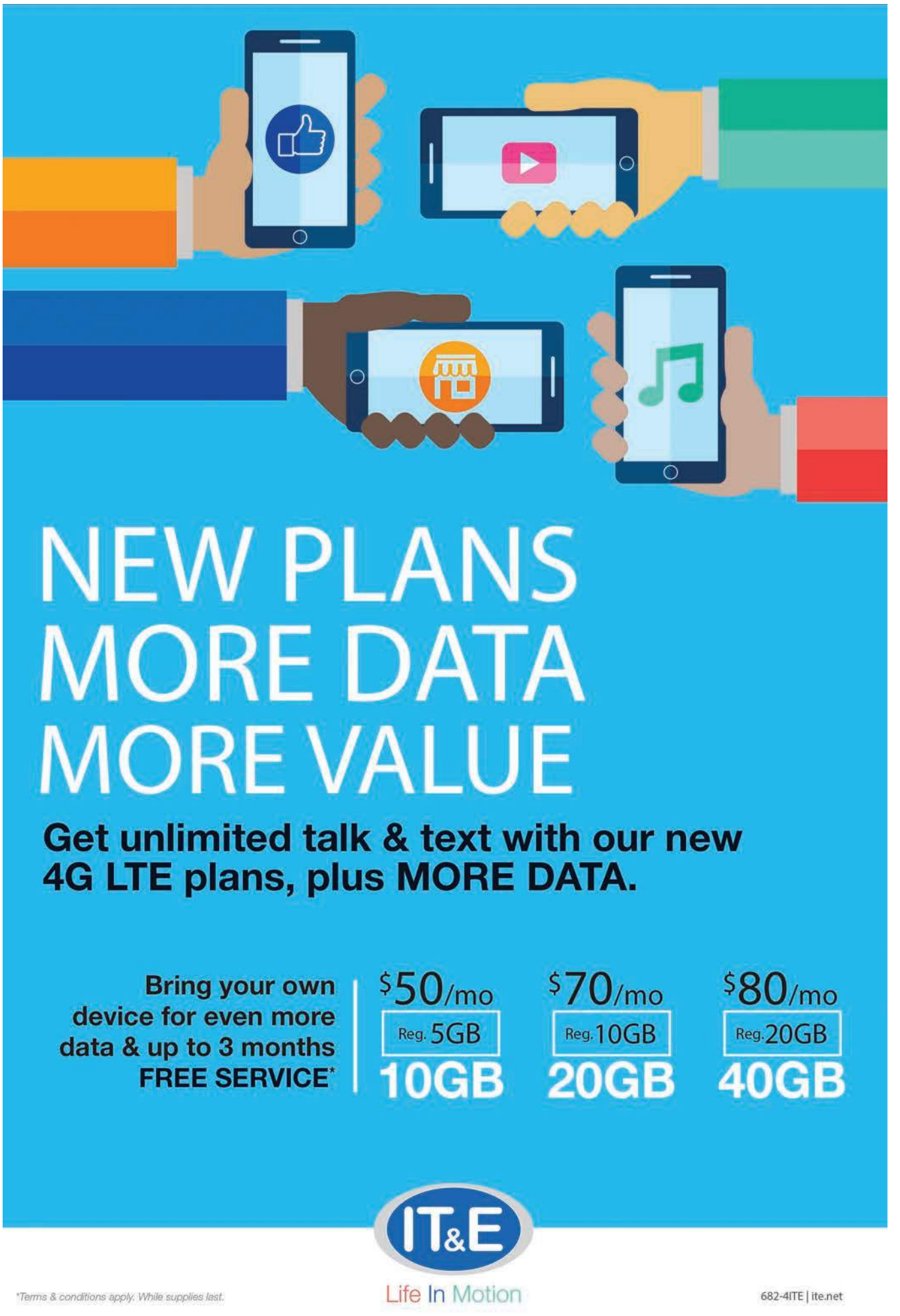
For civilians, one must look for a veteran willing to do an interview and recall stories of war, also no less than 30 minutes per submission.

Giudice pointed out the significant effects of war throughout the CNMI. "I've been impressed while travelling to the various islands here to understand just how much of an impact war has made on the community memory, and it is everywhere around that you are reminded about it. Through the war memorials and peace memorials, the military experience is very much part of the contemporary life," she said. "So many of the people here—though I'm not sure why, perhaps the consciousness that this is such a key spot on the Pacific map for defense—that encourages people to be actively involved."

Giudice shared that not only will VHP prove to be a valuable historical reference, but is also a good therapeutic experience for the veteran. "It is important for processing the experience of war, and sometimes it is therapeutic to be able to speak to an empathetic listener, to know that your story is valued, that someone is taking the time to learn about the realities of war from those who fought in the war and supported the effort as well," said Giudice.

The VHP is a project created by the United States Congress in 2000, is part of the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress.

For more information, visit the VHP website at www.loc.gov/vets.



Rota mayor wants private company to take over Pinatang Park

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

ROTA—Rota Mayor Efraim M. Atalig wants a private company to take over the operation of the abandoned Pinatang Park, a seawater park with several channels out to the open sea.

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

The swimming pool at the Pinatang Park in Songsong Village was once a popular swimming place for residents and visitors of Rota. The Rota administration wants a big company to take over operation of the park, which is now dilapidated due to typhoons and lack of maintenance.

In an interview on Friday, Atalig disclosed that he met on Thursday with Saipan people led by Jacob Muña who are handling the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development grant, in which they discussed Pinatang Park.

"We are discussing to at least guide me on how to put out a request for proposal to these investors that are interested in doing something about it so that we can turn it over to a private industry rather than a government like us to maintain it," Atalig said.

The mayor pointed out that maintenance for Pinatang Park is very costly.

Atalig believes that if a big company takes over the operation of the seawater park, it will benefit the community of Rota and the municipality.

He said typhoons have a lot to do with the damage to the park and partly because there is not enough emphasis on upkeep or maintenance.

The mayor underscored the importance of restoring the seawater park as "it is so beautiful."

"When the tides and waves are high, it's a very good place to swim…because the wave is controlled from those rocks outside," he said. "The water just slips into the swimming pool and it cleanses it out and then if there is no wave, the water becomes stagnant."

In a separate interview on Friday, Rota Municipal Council chair George Ogo Hocog agreed that the administration's plan is to look for investors or put out a request for proposals for those who want to invest in it.

Hocog said a lot of typhoons have damaged the park. The park is a little bit nice now, but the problem is that the building is already dilapidated, he said.

Hocog said the Department of Public Workers already condemned the pavilion because it's falling apart.

In November 1996, the Northern Marianas Housing Corp. sought request for proposals for rehabilitation of Pinatang Park using a Community Development Block Grant but it was never completed then due to insufficient local funds.

WANTED

SPORTS REPORTER

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Saipan Tribune, Inc. is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Qualified women, minorities, and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.

Argument over text messages allegedly causes domestic spat

An argument over text messages led to the arrest of a man who allegedly head-butted his wife on the forehead and, while armed with a knife, pinned her on a door in their house in Kagman II on Thursday morning.

Jesse Jarvin Kaipat, 27, was arrested that same day on charges of assault with a dangerous weapon, assault and battery, assault, and disturbing the peace. His bail was set Friday at a $7,500 cash; preliminary hearing is on Oct. 13 at 9am.

The victim's forehead was swollen, police said.

Assistant public defender Michael Sato was appointed as counsel for Kaipat. Assistant attorney general Betsy Weintraub appeared for the government.

Police detective Koji M. N. Taisakan stated in his report that a police officer responded on Wednesday morning to a call about a domestic violence at Kaipat's residence in Kagman II. (***Ferdie de la Torre)***

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Must be a college graduate with minimum of 2 years' experience as a Mechanical Engineering Technician with knowledge on how to apply Theory and Principles of Mechanical Engineering in planning, designing and overseeing construction, structure maintenance and other facilities under the directions of engineering staff or physical scientists.

Electrical Engineering Technicians (01) $6.60 - 7.50/hour
Must be a college graduate with minimum of 2 years' experience as a Electrical Engineering Technician with knowledge on how to apply Theory and Principles of Electrical Engineering in planning, designing and overseeing construction, structure maintenance and other facilities under the directions of engineering staff or physical scientists.

Machinist (01) $6.60 - 7.00/hour
Set up and operate a variety of machine tools to produce precision parts and instruments. Includes precision instrument makers who fabricate, modify or repair. Must be a high graduate or minimum 5year's experience as a Machinist.

Sales Person (2) $6.55 - 6.60/hour
Must be a high/ college graduate or minimum 2-5year's experience as a Sales Person. Sell mdse, such as light and heavy vehicles, motor vehicles parts, H. E. parts, appliances, to consumers. Describe mdse and explain use, operation.

Auto Body Repairer (06) $6.60 - $7.50/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum 2 years' experience as Auto Body Repairer. With knowledge how to repair and refinish automotive vehicle bodies and straighten vehicle frames.

Truck Driver (02) $6.60 - $7.50/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of 2-5 years experiences as a Truck Driver with knowledge on how to drive a Tractor Trailer or Trucks that has a capacity of at least 26,000 GVW for various construction materials transportation

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Must be a high school graduate with minimum of 2 years experienced as a plumber with knowledge to assemble, install alter and repair pipelines or pipe systems that carry water, steam, air or other liquids or gases. May install heating and cooling equipment and mechanical control systems and sprinkler fitters.

Painter (05) $6.60 - $7.50/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum 5 years experience as Painter. Knowledgeable on how to operate/tend various painting machines. Able to paint transportation equipment surfaces, such as automobiles,buses,trucks,trains,boats,airplanes ad etc.

Carpenter (20) $6.60 - $7:50/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum 5 years experience as a Carpenter, With knowledge how to construct, erect, install, or repair structures and fixtures made of wood, such as concrete forms; building frameworks, including partitions, joists, studding, and rafters; and wood stairways, window and door frames, and hardwood floors.

Automobile Electrician (03) $6.60 - $7.50/hour
Must have at least 5 years work related experience. Able to diagnose and undertake electrical repairs on a wide variety of vehicles and heavy equipment. With knowledge on electric motor, alternator, starter and motor rewinding.

Electrician (10) $6.60 - $7.50/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of 2 years experience as Electrician. With knowledge on how to install, maintain, and repair electrical wiring, equipment, and fixtures. Able to install or service street lights, intercom systems, or electrical control systems.

Heavy Equipment Mechanic (20) $6.60 - $7.50/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of 5 years experience as Heavy Equipment Mechanic. With knowledge how to diagnose, adjust, repair, or overhaul automobiles, hydraulic, and pneumatic equipment, such as cranes, bulldozers, graders, excavators, trucks and conveyors, typically used in constructions.

Heavy Equipment Operator (20) $6.10 - $7.50/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of 2 years' experience as HE Operator. With knowledge how to operate several types of power construction equipment, such as motor graders, bulldozers, trenching machine, scrapers, compressors, pumps, derricks, shovels, tractors, or front-end loaders to excavate, move, and grade earth, erect structures, or pour concretes and etc.

Mason (20) $6.60– 7.50/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of 3 years experience as Mason. With knowledge how to do smooth and finish surfaces of poured concrete, such as floors, walks, sidewalks, roads, or curbs using a variety of hand and power tools. Align forms for sidewalks, curbs, or gutters; patch voids; and use saws to cut expansion joints.

Plumber (6) $6.60-7.50/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of 5 years experience as a Plumber. With knowledge how to assemble, install, alter, and repair pipelines or pipe systems that carry water, steam, air, or other liquids or gases. Able to install heating and cooling equipment and mechanical control systems.

Welder (20) $6.6.60-$7.50/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of 2 years experience as a Welder. With knowledge how to use hand-welding, flame-cutting, hand soldering, or brazing equipment to weld or join metal components or to fill holes, indentations, or seams of fabricated metal products.

Architectural Drafter Technician (02) $6.60-7.50/hour
College graduate with a minimum of 5 years experience as an Architectural Technician. Capable of preparing detailed drawings of architectural/structural features of buildings as well as drawings and photographic relief maps used in civil engineering projects such as highways, bridges and other public works. Knowledgeable on building materials engineering practices/mathematics used to complete drawings drafts.

Tower Crane Operator (02) $6.55 - $7.00/hour
High school graduate with a minimum of 2 years work related experience. Operate mechanical boom and cable or tower and cable equipment to lift and move materials, machines or products in many directions. Determine load weights and check them against lifting capacities to prevent overload Must be able to comply with all safety regulations and work with minimal supervision.

Rigger (02) $6.55-6.60/hour
Must be a high school graduate with 2 years work experience on related field. Set up or repair rigging for construction projects, manufacturing plants, logging yards, ships and shipyards, or for the entertainment industry. Employee must have his/her transportation to and from various job sites. Must be able to comply with all safety regulations and work with minimal supervision.

All of the above positions must be able to work flexible time. Interested applicants may apply at GPPC,INC. office located at As Perdido, Saipan. A copy of police clearance must be attached to the application. Incomplete application will NOT be accepted. Skills, testing maybe required. GPPC, INC is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Closing Date: October 12, 2016

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(2) Sales Person - $6.55- $6.60 per hour
Must be a high/ college graduate or minimum 2-5year's experience as a Sales Person. Sell merchandise, such as light and heavy vehicles, motor vehicles parts, H. E. parts, appliances, to consumers. Describe merchandise and explain use, operation.

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Must be a high school graduate with minimum 2 years' experience as Auto Body Repairer. With knowledge how to repair and refinish automotive vehicle bodies and straighten vehicle frames.

(06) Plumber $6.55 - $7.50/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of 2 years experienced as a plumber with knowledge to assemble, install alter and repair pipelines or pipe systems that carry water, steam, air or other liquids or gases. May install heating and cooling equipment and mechanical control systems and sprinkler fitters.

(03) Painter $6.60 - $7.50/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum 5 years experience as Painter. Knowledgeable on how to operate/tend various painting machines. Able to paint transportation equipment surfaces, such as automobiles, buses, trucks, trains, boats, airplanes ad etc.

(20) Carpenter $6.60 - $7.50/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum 5 years experience as a Carpenter. With knowledge how to construct, erect, install, or repair structures and fixtures made of wood, such as concrete forms; building frameworks, including partitions, joists, studding, and rafters; and wood stairways, window and door frames, and hardwood floors.

(03) Automobile Electrician $6.60 - $7.50/hour
Must have at least 5 years work related experience. Able to diagnose and undertake electrical repairs on a wide variety of vehicles and heavy equipment. With knowledge on electric motor, alternator, starter and motor rewinding.

(16) Electrician $6.60 - $7.50/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of 2 years experience as Electrician. With knowledge on how to install, maintain, and repair electrical wiring, equipment, and fixtures. Able to install or service street lights, intercom systems, or electrical control systems.

(20) Heavy Equipment Mechanic $6.60 - $7.50/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of 5 years experience as Heavy Equipment Mechanic. With knowledge how to diagnose, adjust, repair, or overhaul automobiles, hydraulic, and pneumatic equipment, such as cranes, bulldozers, graders, excavators, trucks and conveyors, typically used in constructions.

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Must be a high school graduate with minimum of 2 years' experience as HE Operator. With knowledge how to operate several types of power construction equipment, such as motor graders, bulldozers, trenching machine, scrapers, compressors, pumps, derricks, shovels, tractors, or front-end loaders to excavate, move, and grade earth, erect structures, or pour concretes and etc.

(20) Mason $6.60– 7.50/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of 3 years experience as Mason. With knowledge how to do smooth and finish surfaces of poured concrete, such as floors, walks, sidewalks, roads, or curbs using a variety of hand and power tools. Align forms for sidewalks, curbs, or gutters; patch voids; and use saws to cut expansion joints.

(6) Plumber $6.60-7.50/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of 5 years experience as a Plumber. With knowledge how to assemble, install, alter, and repair pipelines or pipe systems that carry water, steam, air, or other liquids or gases. Able to install heating and cooling equipment and mechanical control systems.

(20) Welder $6.6.60-$7.50/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of 2 years experience as a Welder. With knowledge how to use hand-welding, flame-cutting, hand soldering, or brazing equipment to weld or join metal components or to fill holes, indentations, or seams of fabricated metal products.

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(02) Architectural Drafter Technician $6.60-7.50 hour
College graduate with a minimum of 5 years experience as an Architectural Technician. Capable of preparing detailed drawings of architectural/structural features of buildings as well as drawings and photographic relief maps used in civil engineering projects such as highways, bridges and other public works. Knowledgeable on building materials engineering practices/mathematics used to complete drawings drafts.

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All of the above positions must be able to work flexible time.
Interested applicants may apply at Apex Builder's Inc. office located at As Perdido, Saipan. A copy of police clearance must be attached to the application. Incomplete application will NOT be accepted. Skills, testing maybe required.
Apex Builder's Inc. is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Closing Date: October 12, 2016

Red Cross Home Fire Campaign is coming to the NMI

The American Red Cross Home Fire Campaign will be visiting homes across Saipan, Tinian, and Rota throughout the month of October to install smoke alarms in homes that need them and teach people about what they can do now to be prepared should a fire break out in their home.

Seven times a day someone around the nation dies in a fire. Just two weeks ago, five small children died in a house fire in Guam. The Red Cross Home Fire Campaign aims to reduce deaths and injuries from home fires by as much as 25 percent over the next few years. The Red Cross and thousands of campaign partners have helped save numerous lives and installed more than a quarter of a million smoke alarms in homes all across the country since the campaign launched in October 2014.

» Will include installing smoke alarms; helping people practice fire escape plans

The Red Cross partners with fire departments and community groups across the country to install smoke alarms in communities with high numbers of fires and encourage everyone to practice their fire escape plans. Joining the NMI Chapter of the American Red Cross on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota will be fire inspectors from the Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services, and members of the Fire Prevention Month Committee.

"Installing smoke alarms cuts the risk of someone dying from a home fire in half, so we're joining with groups from across our community to install smoke alarms," said J.D. Tenorio, Emergency Services director of the NMI Chapter. "We also will be teaching people how to be safe from home fires and typhoons."

See RED CROSS on Next Page

RED CROSS

From Page 8

Simple steps to save lives

Even as the Red Cross and other groups install smoke alarms in some neighborhoods, they are calling on everyone to take two simple steps that can save lives: create and practice their home fire escape plan and check their smoke alarms.

There are several things families and individuals can do to increase their chances of surviving a fire:

If someone doesn't have smoke alarms, install them. At a minimum, put one on every level of the home, inside bedrooms and outside sleeping areas. Local building codes vary and there may be additional requirements where someone lives.

If someone does have alarms, test them today. If they don't work, replace them.

Make sure that everyone in the family knows how to get out of every room and how to get out of the home in less than two minutes.

Practice that plan. What's the household's escape time?

Download Red Cross apps

People can learn how to help prevent a home fire and what to do if one occurs by downloading the Red Cross Emergency App. Children can earn points and incentives in a fun, gaming environment while learning how to prevent a home fire and other emergencies in the Monster Guard: Prepare for Emergencies App. The First Aid App has information on what to do for burns, broken bones, and breathing and cardiac emergencies. The apps can be downloaded for free in app stores or at redcross.org/apps.

What people can do

People can visit redcross.org/homefires to find out more about how to protect themselves and their loved homes from fire. They can become a Red Cross volunteer by contacting 670-234-3459. They can also help by donating to Red Cross Disaster Relief by visiting redcross.org, calling 1-800-Red Cross. Donations to disaster relief will be used to prepare for, respond to and help people recover from disasters big and small. We respond to nearly 66,000 other disasters every year and most of these are home fires.

About the American Red Cross

The American Red Cross shelters, feeds and provides emotional support to victims of disasters; supplies about 40 percent of the nation's blood; teaches skills that save lives; provides international humanitarian aid; and supports military members and their families. The Red Cross is a not-for-profit organization that depends on volunteers and the generosity of the American public to perform its mission. For more information, please visit redcross.org or cruzrojaamericana.org, or visit us on Twitter at @RedCross. ***(ARC)***

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CUC-RFP-17-003

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES TO UPDATE CUC'S RULES AND REGULATIONS AND CUC'S POLICIES AND PROCEDURES MANUAL

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified and experienced entities for professional services to update the CUC Rules and Regulations and CUC's Policies and Procedures Manual.

The solicitation seeks responses from qualified entities from which CUC intends to select one consultant to negotiate the final scope of work and enter into a contract agreement that best fit CUC's consultancy requirements.

The scope of work and solicitation package will be emailed upon request, by the CUC Procurement and Supply Office from 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday to Friday, except on government observed holidays. Prospective proponents for this RFP must register with the CUC Procurement and Supply Division.

A pre-proposal conference will be conducted at the CUC Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Building on **October 20, 2016, at 10:00 a.m. (ChST).** Immediately after the conference, proposers shall familiarize themselves with the current CUC Rules and Regulations and the CUC Policies and Procedures Manual prior to submitting the proposal.

One (1) original and five (5) hard copies, along with an electronic copy of the proposal on a compact disk in PDF format must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked *"CUC RFP-17-003 – Professional Services to Update CUC's Rules and Regulations and CUC's Policies and Procedures Manual"* to the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Building, P. O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **November 10, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. (ChST).** Late submissions and conditional proposals will not be considered.

Discussions may be conducted with responsible offerors who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Offerors shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity to discussion and revision of proposals, and such revision may be permitted after submission and prior to award for the purpose of obtaining the best and final offers. During discussions, there will be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competitive offerors.

All offerors are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the offeror due to lack of information of understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract. The RFP does not commit CUC to award of a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for services. Offerors are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal laws. This bid and the ensuring contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All responses to this RFP should take into account any and all taxes, which will become the obligation of the proponent awarded a contract. Successful proponents will be required to submit a copy of a valid CNMI business license in compliance with the licensing laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, upon award of the contract. The contractor and all subcontractors will be obligated to pay wage rates not less than the current CNMI minimum wage, prevailing through the period of the contract, as indicated in the web page: https://marianaslabor.net/. The proponents shall be required to comply with all applicable CNMI and Federal laws.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 a.m. (ChST) on October 24, 2016,** to Manuel B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer, via email address at manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Marcela Tenorio, CUC Purchasing Assistant, via email address at marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Acting Executive Director

MANUEL B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer

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2 Does not apply to access through Quicken® or QuickBooks®. Optional Online Banking features may incur additional fees. You must be enrolled in FHB Online and have a mobile device with Internet to use FHB Mobile Banking. Device must have a rear-facing camera with autofocus to use Mobile Deposit. See FAQs in the "Mobile Deposit" section of fhb.com/mobile for Mobile Deposit eligibility requirements. Checks deposited via Mobile Deposit are treated as deposits by mail for funds availability purposes. See Terms and Conditions of FHB Online services for full details. Text banking not available in Guam or CNMI.
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Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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MEMBER

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Stop and frisk, an idea whose time has come and gone

Sunday's town hall-style debate in St. Louis will offer participants a chance to hammer the two presidential candidates on issues where clarification is required. For starters, we'd like to hear more specificity from Republican Donald Trump about his advocacy of "stop and frisk."

Trump appears to be under the impression that communities like Ferguson remain in a virtual state of war. He stated this week that race riots are occurring in America, on average, once a month. His stated solution, as president, would be to impose stop and frisk as the policing policy across the country. He cites the experience of New York as his basis for expanding the program.

The New York Civil Liberties Union reports that, since 2002, New York police have targeted more than 4 million people for stops, searches and interrogations as a way of addressing petty street crimes and getting guns off the street. Police were empowered to stop anyone, with or without cause, and conduct searches for contraband.

The practice was a blatant civil rights violation. Nine out of 10 searches victimized entirely innocent people who were just exercising their right to go from one place to another. New York police singled out minorities 90 percent of the time. In 2013, a federal judge ruled that stop-and-search practices, without cause, violated the Constitution.

The New York Times reports that the stop-and-frisk era praised as successful by Trump actually ended in 2011, a year when there were 515 homicides in the city. Trump asserted in the Sept. 26 debate that crime went up after stop-and-frisk ended. In fact, it dropped. Homicides are down 32 percent. When Democrat Hillary Clinton tried to correct his mischaracterizations of the aftermath when stop and frisk ended, his response was to chant, repeatedly, "Wrong."

Trump's experience with street life is his ever-so-brief encounter with a public sidewalk between leaving a skyscraper lobby and jumping into a limousine. The chances of him being exposed to a police stop-and-frisk encounter are zero. He has no idea whatsoever the kinds of resentment and humiliation that such encounters inflict on innocent people. He has no idea what it's like to be singled out for search merely for being dressed in a hoodie or just for being black or Hispanic.

Trump seems blind to the harm this program can create within torn communities like Ferguson, where police are working overtime to restore cooperative relations and rebuild trust. National stop and frisk would have disastrous consequences.

Trump's blithe, elitist embrace of this program ignores the harsh reality experienced by thousands whose only "crime" was to walk, talk or stand in the wrong place at the wrong time. It's another example of his tone-deafness to the limousine-deprived masses who live in the real world.

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EMERGENCY R
A POLITICIAN SAID SOMETHING REFRESHINGLY HONEST, HE'S GOING INTO SHOCK.
VOTERS
BILL CLINTON'S ASSESSMENT OF OBAMACARE
CHECK-IN

Obamacare's sunk: Time for a new ship

By JIM DEMINT
The Heritage Foundation

A former U.S. Senator from South Carolina, Jim DeMint is president of The Heritage Foundation, 214 Massachusetts Avenue NE, Washington, D.C. 20002; Web site: www.heritage.org. Information about Heritage's funding may be found at http://www.heritage.org/about/reports.cfm.

Back in 2010, Obamacare was like the Titanic heading off on her maiden voyage. Critics warned people not to hop aboard, that disaster was inevitable. But the president, his allies in Congress and lots of big insurance companies assured everyone that, even though they couldn't see the blueprints, they had, in fact, designed an unsinkable ship of government-run health care.

Now, billions of dollars and 17 failed co-ops later, the captain and crew of USS Obamacare are demanding that everyone stay below-deck and continue bailing out their sinking ship and the insurance companies taking on more and more red ink in Obamacare exchanges.

Congress shouldn't oblige them. It's time to hit the lifeboats.

The latest bailout proposal would extend a temporary provision in the woefully misnamed Affordable Care Act.

The provisional Transitional Reinsurance Program, which took effect in 2014 and is scheduled to expire at the end of this year, imposes a contribution tax on employer-sponsored health plans. The proceeds are used to reimburse insurers offering ACA-compliant individual market coverage for taking on expensive, high risk enrollees.

These corporate subsidies were originally meant to be a temporary fix while companies adjusted to a market with the federal government's finger on the scales.

The authors of Obamacare realized that because their bill created exchanges offering comprehensive and heavily subsidized individual coverage, people with expensive medical conditions would be motivated to seek such coverage in favor of their existing (mostly employer-based) plans. The designers assumed that a little temporary support would handle the problem.

However, as critics predicted, Obamacare set in motion much bigger and more costly consequences in the insurance market. Faced with mounting losses, more and more insurers are abandoning the exchanges.

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Nebraska recently announced it is withdrawing from the exchange next year, while BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee said it will no longer offer exchange plans in that state's three largest markets: Nashville, Memphis and Knoxville. Meanwhile, remaining insurers are hiking premiums by 20 percent or more.

And the problems aren't confined to Obamacare exchanges. People who buy individual insurance but don't qualify for a subsidy are being hit with the full cost of premium hikes and facing decreased coverage choices as well.

For instance, Wellmark, the parent company of Blue Cross and Blue Shield of South Dakota, which has never participated in the exchanges, announced that it will also stop selling ACA-compliant individual market policies off the exchange. So, a self-employed South Dakotan can keep his or her old (pre-Obamacare) Wellmark policy, but others wanting or needing new individual coverage will no longer be able to buy it from that state's largest insurer.

It's worth noting that Wellmark is not some greedy for-profit insurer. Rather, it's a policyholder-owned company—the exact kind that Obamacare tried to replicate through its now-failed co-op program.

The same politicians who rammed this doomed Titanic through Congress in the first place are now pushing to extend the reinsurance program.

Yet doubling down on disaster is not a solution. Rather than try to prop up an ill-designed law, Congress needs to systematically repeal and replace Obamacare's dysfunctional policies with more sensible solutions—starting with the law's most damaging provisions.

Contrary to the assertions of Obamacare supporters, there are other ways to ensure that needy individuals get the medical care they need without wrecking health insurance markets for everyone else. The Heritage Foundation proposed one such approach, called "A Fresh Start for Health Care Reform," two years ago. Other think tanks and several lawmakers have also proposed promising, free-market options.

As for the remaining insurers, rather than lobbying for short-term bailouts, they would be better off helping Congress design more workable replacement solutions for the long-term.

Obamacare is sinking fast. We need to transfer the passengers to a safer, more sea-worthy ship.

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Changing alliances

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of Department of Public Lands.*

As we ponder the future use of the islands for military exercises, Republic of the Philippines President Rodrigo Duterte plans a visit to China this month that could redraw alliances in East Asia. As this heads out the door, the U.S. is saying our relation with the republic is "ironclad."

Duterte wants to pursue a more independent foreign policy than it has in the past. "Ever since President Duterte took office, China and the Philippines have been engaging in friendly interactions, which have yielded a series of positive results," Zhao Jianhua, the Chinese ambassador to Manila, said at a Chinese National Day reception at the embassy last week per a Reuters news report.

"The clouds are fading away. The sun is rising over the horizon, and will shine beautifully on the new chapter of bilateral relations," Zhao said. But Japan too has invested heavily in the Philippines and could well be the arm the U.S. would employ to influence steady policy in East Asia to keep China at ease. The Philippines is closer to mainland China than the CNMI. What role would we play in a fast changing shift in alliances?

Freedom of the press

Through the years, the CNMI gradually embraced the news media as the right forum for information and exchange of views. It's a good place to promote healthy discussion among citizenry.

Having walked up this alley for over 40 years with my late brother, we were privy to seeing how the press evolved from the "freest" press to one of responsibility. Eventually, slander and libel laws discouraged use of the press as a tool for ferocious vulgarity and savage defamation.

Today, the news media has become our primary source of information. The digital age brought in social media with tons of information but people who post materials aren't required to ensure accuracy nor are they equipped with the journalistic discipline to present the truth in spreading good or bad tidings. So exercise caution when using the social media for information.

About the only reason that I wake up before the break of dawn is to review online editions of local and major global publications like my favorite *Wall Street Journal*, Asian edition. I would then slide into other materials from national foundations, etc. I've got my own favorite columnists like Charles Krauthammer and George Will. I'd read others depending on issues of interest. Otherwise, I've got books written by islanders (highly esteemed intellectuals) I'd plow right in to explore their views on colonization, decolonization to deculturation, etc.

The press has kept government on its toes. Indeed, we've seen how careers were ruined permanently by major errors in judgment against the self or violation of the public interest. It takes the re-awakening of "we the people" and the active role of the press to usher in needed change. I expect this happening once more this November.

While community members may not readily reveal their thoughts or feelings, it doesn't mean ignorance. Trust me, they know more than their silence is golden demeanor.

The other vital side to this equation is what's known as reading! Our people in all walks of life must be able to read and understand the printed word. Yes, we've come a long way on this score through education. How gratifying it would be if someday the CNMI attains a fully informed citizenry taking issues beyond linear thinking. It should lead to thorough discussion and disposition of issues before us.

The $-million riddle

A friend replied to the query of the gross of the $37 million fee Best Sunshine pays the CNMI. He has the right answer while asserting that the CNMI has been had in a deal that needed thorough review. How true that it was a rushed and hushed deal!

It was tiptoed through the two chambers when the island went snoozing. The guys and gals came out with injured conscience and on wheelchairs for life. Appalling, though, the aura of invincibility. Casino would permanently change what's left of the heritage of these isles. Interesting the warped view that vacuous measures would strengthen the very institution and pillar of tradition that lacked foresight. Whatever happened to common sense? How could you have missed the obvious connection?

Friends, in a democracy nothing's stronger than the voice of the people. The tenure of legislators is limited and easily ended when "we the people" decide it's against our interest that lapdogs now fill the two chambers on the hill. It piques my interest, though, whether the $7 billion integrated resort would make it in these very interesting times. Something's amiss here, right?

Long bombs

It is known among Pacific intellectuals and scholars as the "long bombs" of imperialism—what the colonial power brought here—that turned into a way of life. How do we uproot it? Impossible! Even our national government isn't sure of the effects of the money economy. But it's here to stay! Traditional mode of life is basically history!

Interesting their availing of funds for such programs as cultural revival including the local language. We brave spouting that our culture is itself a renaissance. Is this why we continue redundancy bringing external experts to tell us what we already know? I mean it reminds me of the adage, "After all is said and done a lot more is said than done." And we return the following year repeating the same polished failure!

The heritage of these isles would survive if we buckle down to practicing it daily. It would live in perpetuity and we need not employ the phrase "cultural preservation" to pretend we're doing something about it. Live it!

So the Republican Party finally gets Trump?

By MARY C. CURTIS
CQ-ROLL CALL

On careful review of the statements of Republican leaders—who have finally denounced Donald Trump after his stomach-turning and graphic comments about women came to light in a just-released 2005 video—a particular theme emerges.

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell: "As the father of three daughters, I strongly believe that Trump needs to apologize directly to women and girls everywhere, and take full responsibility for the utter lack of respect for women shown in his comments on that tape."

Rep. Mark Walker, R-N.C.: "... as the proud father of two daughters and the husband to the greatest lady I've ever met, it would be hypocritical of me to ignore these remarks."

Rep. Jason E. Chaffetz, R-Utah: "My wife and I, we have a 15-year-old daughter, and if I can't look her in the eye and tell her these things, I can't endorse this person."

Vice presidential candidate Mike Pence: "As a husband and father, I was offended by the words and actions described by Donald Trump in the 11-year-old video."

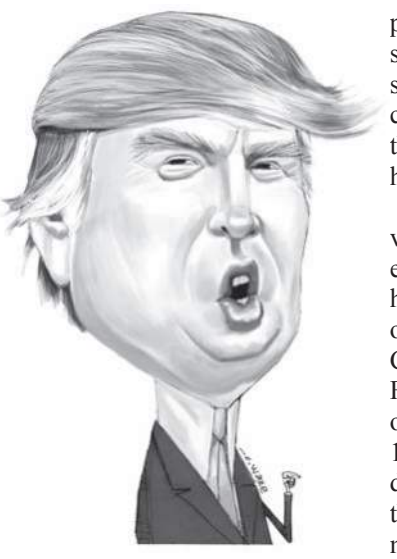
So all of a sudden his party gets it? When Trump was rushing to personally insult Hillary Clinton—whether it was her "look" or her stamina or what goes on in her marriage and why she is to blame—that was fine. Republicans were lining up for an "attaboy."

It took the mental image of their own child and/or spouse looking up to, or perhaps being in a room alone with, a man who casually chats about groping women against their will—labeled sexual assault in criminal codes—before GOP leaders could see the light and decide that harsh criticism, not lukewarm justification, was warranted?

And don't forget, while some Republicans have called for Trump to step down or have said the man at the top of the ticket can't count on their votes, others feel a stern talking to is sufficient as long as the candidate offers a sincere apology, something he's so far proven unable to do. Or as Pence says, Trump still has "the opportunity he has to show what is in his heart."

Everyone on earth pretty much knows by now.

No one can be surprised that the Donald Trump who called women all sorts of names is capable of the goings-on—on and off that bus. Trump's non-apology apology that others did worse, and that that's just the way guys talk, only reinforces what everyone already knew about the bubble of power and privilege he's always inhabited and the wanton abuse that allows.



But at the risk of checking off a laundry list, and sounding as intense and repetitive as Democrat Tim Kaine in a vice presidential debate, the latest Trump revelation isn't even the most disturbing thing he has said and done. Trump's running mate, Mike Pence, ignored, glossed over, or misrepresented all the Trump quotes Kaine threw at him.

But they haven't gone away.

When Trump mocked or maligned the disabled, Mexican-Americans, Muslim-Americans, African-Americans, veterans and others, where was all the righteous concern, including from self-professed and proud Christian Mike Pence?

This trend, the lack of empathy for the other, with the other defined as anyone who doesn't live upstairs or next door, has been an exclusionary part of our national character for a while. And it has blossomed this presidential-election year.

In that vice presidential debate, Pence dismissed complaints that Trump labeled undocumented Mexican immigrants as "rapists" as "that Mexican thing." When Pence went on to say that racism is primarily a problem because people insist on talking about it, including, one would assume, his "friend" South Carolina Republican Tim Scott who has spoken about being racially profiled, Kaine was rendered momentarily speechless. However, those weary of discussions of inequality and bias in policing and society at large probably agreed with Pence, and the calm GOP No. 2 was judged to have won he debate on style points.

Just this week, while the new Trump interview has GOP leaders in a panic of self-preservation, the candidate's doubling down on his shameful part in an infamous miscarriage of justice received scant coverage. Trump, to CNN, asserted the guilt of the Central Park Five, five black and Latino teens convicted of assault and rape charges in a tabloid-ready 1989 New York City case—despite DNA evidence to the contrary, despite a settlement by the city, despite a confession by a different man, one who went on to rape and murder when the teens were wrongfully convicted and imprisoned and police closed the case.

"The fact that that case was settled with so much evidence against them is outrageous," said Trump, an opinion that also again shows his disrespect for the court system that vacated the convictions. And not a peep from the Republicans who are now howling, not Pence, for whom there is no racism, and no solution save "law and order" and "stop and frisk."

Who can feel sorry for Republican leaders, when they knew what they were getting all along, with Trump's smears of those he considers weak, the races and classes of people it was not in the party's interest to speak to or protect?

Few had the courage to stand in the way of the Trump train, until it knocked on the door and their daughters answered.

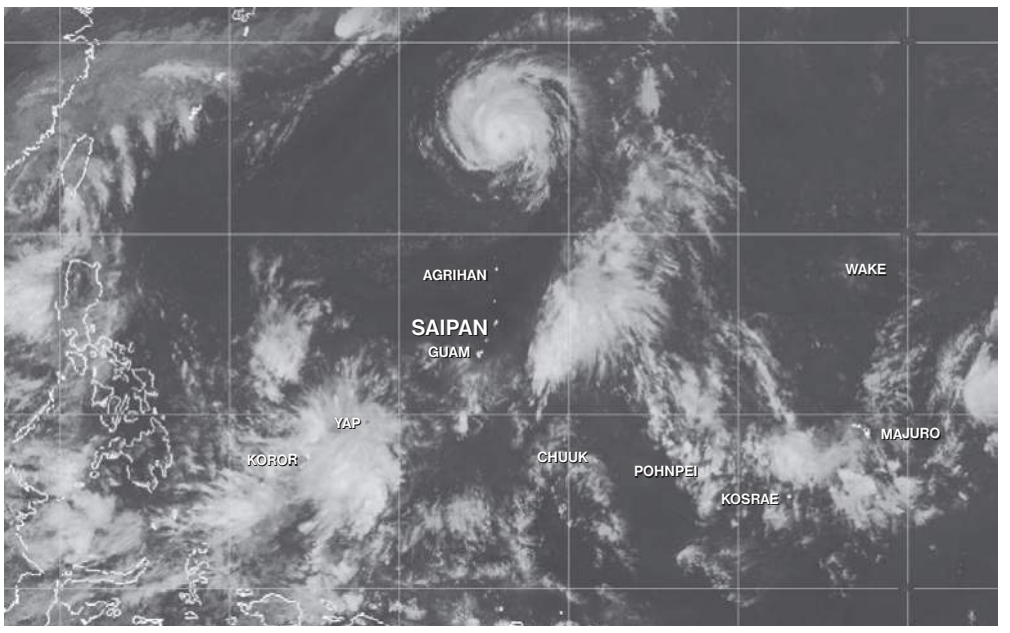
Roll Call columnist Mary C. Curtis has worked at The New York Times, The Baltimore Sun *and* The Charlotte Observer*. Follow her on Twitter @mcurtisnc3.*

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Northeast winds 5 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms.
▲89° ▼78°	▲89° ▼78°	▲89° ▼79°	▲89° ▼79°	▲89° ▼79°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 5:30 AM, MONDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2016
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A slight chance of thunderstorms remains in the forecast for today and tonight as island convection remains a possibility. Light winds combined with adequate moisture could allow a thunderstorm or two to develop over the islands this afternoon and evening. Beginning Tuesday, a few approaching weak disturbances could produce a few thunderstorms over the area as they pass close to the Marianas. Systems become more active a little later in the week, with all the models now showing increasing rainfall for the latter part of the week into the weekend. The ECMWF remains the biggest outlier for the models. It is still much more aggressive with the development of a circulation to the southeast of Guam Thursday and moves through the area to the south. This situation will be monitored and if this system develops as the ECMWF predicts, scattered showers will need to be extended through the weekend.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▼ ▲
Guam and Rota	Partly cloudy	81 / 89 °F
Palau	Mostly cloudy	80 / 85 °F
Yap	Mostly cloudy	80 / 87 °F
Chuuk	Partly sunny	80 / 87 °F
Pohnpei	Mostly cloudy	76 / 85 °F
Kosrae	Partly sunny	79 / 86 °F
Majuro	Partly cloudy	83 / 86 °F

AROUND THE GLOBE		▼ ▲
Auckland	Afternoon clouds	55 / 61 °F
Beijing	Mostly sunny	45 / 64 °F
Hong Kong	Partly sunny	74 / 80 °F
Honolulu	Mostly sunny	73 / 80 °F
London	Partly cloudy	45 / 61 °F
Los Angeles	Haze	59 / 74 °F
Manila	Mostly cloudy	80 / 86 °F
Melbourne	Morning clouds	47 / 55 °F
Miami	Partly sunny	74 / 82 °F
New York	Mostly sunny	50 / 61 °F
Osaka	Mostly sunny	55 / 73 °F
Paris	Decreasing cloudiness	42 / 58 °F
Pusan	Sunny	54 / 71 °F
Rome	Afternoon clouds	55 / 68 °F
Salem	Sunny	41 / 65 °F
San Francisco	Morning clouds	54 / 68 °F
Seoul	Mostly sunny	42 / 70 °F
Tokyo	Mostly sunny	59 / 67 °F
Washington, DC	Partly sunny	48 / 63 °F

NMI CRIME STOPPERS
Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		
2:00 AM	LOW TIDE	1.48 Feet
9:12 AM	HIGH TIDE	0.19 Feet
4:21 PM	LOW TIDE	1.77 Feet
10:19 PM	HIGH TIDE	0.97 Feet

SUNRISE / SUNSET		
Today	6:08 AM	5:59 PM
Wednesday	6:08 AM	5:59 PM
Thursday	6:08 AM	5:58 PM
Friday	6:09 AM	5:57 PM
Saturday	6:09 AM	5:57 PM

MOONRISE / MOONSET		
Today	2:07 PM	1:05 AM
Wednesday	2:55 PM	1:59 AM
Thursday	3:43 PM	2:55 AM
Friday	4:31 PM	3:53 AM
Saturday	5:19 PM	4:52 AM

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF SEPTEMBER 14, 2016

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA6394	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA6392	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA6391	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota
UA6390	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6
UA6398	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily
UA6396	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA6391	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA6391	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL297	4:20pm	7:00pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily
LJ652	2:10pm	6:05pm	Daily
7C3401	4:00pm	7:45pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA6394/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:15am	1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
PR1572	4:35am	6:45am	1, 4
UA6391/183	1:30pm	8:50pm	5 via Rota-GUM
UA6391/183	1:30pm	9:10pm	1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM
UA6391/193	1:30pm	10:35pm	5 via Rota-GUM-ROR
UA6390/183	2:20pm	8:50pm	2 via GUM
UA6390/183	2:20pm	9:10pm	3, 6 via GUM
UA6390/193	2:20pm	10:35pm	2 via GUM-ROR

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

HX077	2:00am	5:00am	1, 4
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA6391/159	1:30pm	9:55pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM
UA6390/159	2:20pm	9:55pm	3, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA6393	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA6395	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA6391	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA6390	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA6397	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA6399	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA6390	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA6390	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:30am	3:05pm	Daily

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

LJ651	7:30am	1:10pm	Daily
7C3402	9:30am	3:00pm	Daily
OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:40pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA190/6397	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR1571	9:20pm	3:35am+1	3, 7
UA192/6395	9:45pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
PR110/UA6395	10:05pm	8:05am+1	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/6395	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/6395	11:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
HX076	5:30pm	12:30am+1	3, 7
UA116/6395	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju Air; HX: Hong Kong Airlines; LJ: Jin Air; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure;ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
6:30AM	6:45AM	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily
1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO ROTA

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

ROTA TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:45PM	5:15PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

‘Pacific Ridge to Reef’ program is launched in Fiji

NADI, FIJI—Over 50 delegates across the Pacific Island region convened in Nadi yesterday to officially launch the Global Environment Facility Pacific Ridge to Reef program aimed at improving the livelihoods and opportunities of Pacific Islanders through local actions to conserve and rehabilitate their environments.

The five-day GEF Pacific R2R program launch and workshop included representatives from participating Pacific Island countries, the GEF Secretariat, the Pacific Community, the United Nations Development Program, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, United Nations Environment Program and other regional development partners.

Lorna Eden, Fiji’s assistant minister for Local Government, Housing and Environment, in her opening speech said: “Small island developing states share unique and intimate inter-connections between land, water and coastal systems, with high vulnerability to climatic changes and limited human resource capacity making a strong case for the R2R approach in the Pacific.”

A “whole of island” approach ensures that policies, multiple sectors, agencies and community interests are properly considered and integrated to ensure sustainable development through participatory planning and management of resources.

“It is with much pleasure that I officially open this important inception meeting for the Pacific R2R Program in Fiji. This groundbreaking program is seeking to address some of the most critical environmental issues from ridge to reef in 14 Pacific SIDS, and through this, improve the resilience of Pacific people.”

“Our livelihoods are dependent on the environment from ridge to reef, and maintaining and conserving these ecosystems is critical to our very survival in the Pacific. In Fiji the quality of the environment is what sustains our primary industry —tourism. Sustainable development must be an integrated approach involving multiple sectors, agencies and communities, and the ridge to reef approach provides a mechanism for this.”

The five-year program aims to guide coordinated investment of the $91 million package of GEF grants, and $333 million of co-financing from the participating countries and other development partners.

The GEF Secretariat International Waters Focal Area Lead, Christian Severin, explained: “The GEF Pacific R2R program aims to deliver tangible and quantifiable local and global environmental benefits by focusing on cross-cutting approaches to water, land and coastal management with linkages across GEF focal areas.

“We are excited that participating countries will have the opportunity to strengthen their capacity to successfully demonstrate and transfer technology to support targeted vulnerable areas, improve livelihoods and public health, and upscale their effective mainstreaming efforts to support countries in achieving their sustainable development goals,” he added.

UNDP Pacific Office in Fiji country director and head of Policy and Programs, Bakhodir Burkhanov, in his remarks said: “Operating across 14 Pacific Islands, the Ridge to Reef program provides an opportunity for participating countries to develop and implement integrated approaches for the sustainable development of island economies and communities.”

“Importantly, the outcomes of this program will also provide valuable insights and lessons learned that can be shared for replication between countries in the Pacific, and with similar initiatives covering other small island developing states for replication and scaling up,” he said.

Burkhanov continued: “UNDP is pleased to be the lead agency for this regional program consisting of 13 national projects that are directly implemented by the countries and a regional program support project implemented by the Pacific community.

“The three UNDP Offices in the Pacific—in Fiji, Samoa, and PNG—support implementation of most of the national projects and the regional project, and will closely coordinate with the other UN agencies and the SPC to ensure achievement of program objectives.”

Coordination and technical support is provided by SPC, the principal scientific and technical organization in the Pacific region.

SPC deputy director–general Dr. Audrey Aumua said: “SPC recognizes the importance of integrated approaches to complex issues in our region, particularly for small island developing states in order to improve their capacity to reach their sustainable development aspirations.”

“At SPC we place a great deal of emphasis on major cross-cutting issues, such as sustaining ecosystem services, climate change adaptation, disaster risk management, food and water security, gender equality, human rights, non-communicable diseases and youth employment. This program is a great example of this,” she added.

“We are proud to partner with the GEF, its implementing agencies and Pacific small island developing states in delivering this very important environmental initiative, by connecting people and supporting them in conserving their environment for sustainable and enhanced livelihoods and resilience,” Aumua said.

Based with SPC’s Geoscience Division, the Regional R2R Program coordinator, Marc Wilson, said: “The Pacific R2R program brings innovation and opportunity to the region through an R2R or ‘whole-of-island’ natural resource management approach.”

“This approach supports locally driven solutions and mobilizes communities to take local action with global benefits, and be active participants in local level decisions related to their environment and part of a community to cabinet policy making process,” he added.

The GEF Pacific R2R Program aims to support PacSIDS in addressing national priorities and development needs while delivering local and global environmental benefits across multiple GEF focal areas, including: biodiversity, land degradation, international waters, sustainable forest management, climate mitigation and adaptation and capacity development.

Participating countries include: Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia , Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Republic of the Marshal Islands , Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu. ***(SPC)***

Water service outage in select Saipan areas

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. would like to inform its customers of San Vicente, Dandan, Obyan, As Lito, Finasisu, As Perdido, Koblerville, As Gonno, and Afetnas that they will be experiencing a temporary water service interruption due to the testing of data collection to extend water service hours for customers living in these areas.

Testing will commence on Wednesday, Oct. 12, 2016, at 9:30am for a 24-hour period. Customers are advised to call CUC’s Call Center if they are experiencing low pressure or no water service during the testing period. Updates will follow as soon as they are available. ***(CUC)***

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR REAPPOINTMENT OF INCUMBENT MAGISTRATE JUDGE

The current term of office of United States Magistrate Judge Heather L. Kennedy, at the District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands, is due to expire on June 10, 2017. The United States District Court is required by law to establish a panel of citizens to consider the reappointment of the magistrate judge to a new four-year term.

The duties of a magistrate judge in this court include the following: (1) conducting preliminary proceedings in criminal cases; (2) trying and disposing of misdemeanor cases; (3) conducting various pretrial matters and evidentiary proceedings delegated bythe District Judge; and (4) trying and disposing of civil cases upon consent of the litigants. The basic jurisdiction of a United States Magistrate Judge is described in 28 U.S.C. § 636.

Written comments from members of the bar and the public are invited as to whether the incumbent magistrate judge should be recommended by the panel for reappointment by the court. Comments must be received by November 7, 2016. Send written comments to:

Amanda Hayes, Chambers Administrator
U.S. District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands
P.O. Box 500687
Saipan, MP 96950

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Bldg.#1356 Mednilla Avenue, Capitol Hill,
P.O. Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone Nos. (670) 664-3196 Fax phone No. (670) 664-3197

EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 29, 2016

THE CNMI DEPARTMENT OF LABOR OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY ISSUES THE FOLLOWING

MORATORIUM NOTICE
on

N.M.I. ADMINISTRATIVE CODE CHAPTER 80 DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, SUB-CHAPTER 80-20.1 EMPLOYMENT RULES AND REGULATIONS § 80-20.1-210 (C) (3) Exemptions from Workforce Participation § 80-20.1-215 (b) Particular Construction Project. Exemptions issued prior to this notice remains in effect until their expiration date.

This moratorium notice shall be in effect until such time that the CNMI Secretary of Labor publishes a new notice on this matter.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: http://www.nmhcgov.net

NOTICE TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC

Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program

(September 23, 2016)

The Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) wants to respectfully inform the general public that the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) recently published the FY 2017 Fair Market Rent (FMR), which will take effect on October 1, 2016. Based on 24 CFR 982.505, NMHC’s FY 2017 Payment Standards shall apply to all FY 2017 New Admission and Other Change-of-Unit certifications effective October 1, 2016 and after; and to all FY 2017 Annual Recertifications effective January 1, 2017 and after.

Thank you and please direct all questions regarding this public notice to the following individuals:

1. **Saipan Office – Telephone Numbers: 234-6866 or 234-9447**
   - David Chargualaf, PHD Manager – email: phdmanager@nmhcgov.net
2. **Tinian Field Office – Telephone Number: 433-9213**
   - Frances Diaz, Tinian Field Office Representative – email: tiniannmhc@nmhcgov.net
3. **Rota Field Office – Telephone Number: 532-9410**
   - Arvin Ogo, Rota Field Office Representative – email: ropnmhc@nmhcgov.net

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NOTICE TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC

Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program

(September 30, 2016)

Pursuant to Section 5.1 of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation’s (NMHC) Section 8 Administrative Plan, this is to inform the general public that NMHC will be keeping its Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program’s (HCVP) waiting list open starting October 3, 2016, until it reaches its maximum number of applicants. Interested families may pick up and submit an application at the NMHC Main Office on Saipan or the Field Offices on Tinian and Rota, from Monday through Friday (except holidays) between 7:30 am to 4:30 pm. The application may also be accessed online at www.nmhcgov.net for download and printing.

NMHC Housing Specialists will review the applications and formally contact applicants to schedule an eligibility appointment. For more information, please contact NMHC at telephone numbers 234-6866 or 234-9446 (Saipan), 433-9213 (Tinian), or 532-9410 (Rota).

Business

Yonhap says Samsung temporarily halted Galaxy Note 7 output

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—Samsung Electronics has temporarily halted production of its Galaxy Note 7 smartphones, South Korea's Yonhap news agency reported Monday, following reports that replacements for the fire-prone phones were also overheating.

Citing an unnamed official at a Samsung supplier, Yonhap said the tech giant took the unprecedented measure for the sake of consumer safety.

The move follows decisions by U.S. phone retailers AT&T and T-Mobile to stop giving new Note 7 smartphones to consumers to replace older models while investigations of the replacement devices are underway.

Samsung's troubles with the Galaxy Note 7, which was recalled last month after reports of its batteries catching fire, appear not to be over.

Samsung Electronics did not respond to a request seeking confirmation of the Yonhap report.

Samsung Electronics Galaxy Note 7 smartphones are displayed at a mobile phone shop in Seoul, South Korea, Monday, Oct. 10, 2016. AP

The Note 7 recall is Samsung's first smartphone recall and its biggest crisis in years.

The premium phone was hailed by critics as one of the best Android phones when it made its debut in August. Two months later, some consumers called the expensive device the "Death Note" after reports that dozens of the smartphones overheated or caught fire, in some cases damaging property or causing injuries.

Samsung seemed to have the trouble under control when it swiftly announced a global recall two weeks after the phone's launch. It promised to replace the earlier phones with new Note 7s showing a green battery icon to indicate they are safe to use.

But consumers have reported even the new Note 7 phones with the green battery icon were catching fire.

Last week, authorities had to evacuate a Southwest Airlines flight in Kentucky when a replacement phone began emitting smoke.

Passenger Brian Green, 43, said the device was a Galaxy Note 7 he had picked up from an authorized AT&T retailer Sept. 21 as a replacement for another Note 7 phone he returned when the global recall was announced.Samsung had promised that the replacement models were safe.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission is still investigating the incident and had no further information as of Friday.

Some U.S. mobile carriers have opted to stop selling the new Note 7 phones. AT&T, one of the largest phone retailers in the U.S., stopped giving consumers replacement Note 7s and encouraged customers with Note 7 phones to exchange them for other devices. T-Mobile said on its website on Sunday that it is temporarily suspending all sales of the new Note7 and exchanges for replacement Note7 devices while Samsung investigates multiple reports.

In response to those reports of replacement phones catching fire, Samsung said on its website Friday that it "understands the concern of our carriers and consumers."

"We continue to move quickly to investigate the reported case to determine the cause and will share findings as soon as possible," it said. "If we conclude a safety issue exists, we will work with the CPSC to take immediate steps to address the situation."

Spielberg's Amblin, China's Alibaba announce partnership

BEIJING (AP) -- Steven Spielberg's Amblin Partners and Chinese e-commerce giant Alibaba Group's media arm announced a partnership Sunday to co-produce films for global audiences.

The deal adds to a multibillion-dollar string of Chinese ventures with Hollywood studios to capture more of the profits from China's growing media market.

Alibaba Pictures will acquire a minority stake in Amblin Partners, the companies said. Amblin, co-owned by Spielberg, combines DreamWorks Studios, Participant Media, Reliance Entertainment and Entertainment One.

No financial details were announced.

Alibaba, led by founder Jack Ma, is China's biggest online commerce company and has expanded into entertainment with its 2014 acquisition of a 60 percent stake in a Hong Kong company that became Alibaba Pictures. Alibaba also owns the Youku Tudou online video service.

The partnership "marks an important milestone in our globalization strategy to reach Chinese and global audiences alike," said Alibaba Pictures chairman Shao Xiaofeng in a statement. "We will also leverage Alibaba Group's ecosystem as a channel for Amblin Partners' films to reach hundreds of millions of Chinese consumers."

World finance officials pledge more resources to aid growth

WASHINGTON (AP)—World finance leaders pledged Saturday to use more resources to try to bolster economic gains as they confront stubbornly slow growth and a rising backlash against globalization.

The policy committee for the 189-nation International Monetary Fund said the world has "benefited tremendously from globalization" but that protectionism is a threat.

Increasing anger over globalization dominated the annual meetings of the IMF and its sister lending agency, the World Bank.

The unhappiness is evident in Britain's vote in June to leave the European Union and in the U.S. presidential campaign of Republican Donald Trump. Trump has said millions of Americans have lost jobs or seen wages stagnate because of unfair trade practices of countries such as China and Mexico. He is vowing to impose penalty tariffs if those practices are not halted.

The British vote sent shockwaves through financial markets this summer, and there were further troubles Friday when the British pound plunged by 6 percent against the dollar before recovering. Investors worry whether there will be more turbulence if the British exit proves to be messy and prolonged.

IMF Managing Director Christine Lagarde said "growth has been too low for too long, benefiting too few," and that's what officials need to address.

French Finance Minister Michel Sapin said global leaders must address concerns of inequality and injustice caused by globalization, such as tax evasion by big corporations and job losses by workers.

"We must fight against this immorality of globalization, this inequality, to again give our people the taste for openness and multilateralism," Sapin told reporters. "There can be an unhappy globalization and we must fight against it."

In their statement, IMF officials committed to designing and putting in place policies "to address the concerns of those who have been left behind and to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to benefit from globalization and technological change."

The IMF, however, did not spell out what actions countries would be willing to take. In an era of budgetary constraints, it is unclear how governments will find the resources to expand education and job training programs and strengthen social safety nets.

Mario Draghi, the head of the European Central Bank, told reporters that even with the turbulence linked to Britain's exit vote, he felt the short-term consequences had not been as dramatic as some had predicted but "to think that there won't be any consequences would be probably too hopeful."

Draghi said a lot will depend on how prolonged the post-Brexit uncertainty lasts as Britain and the EU negotiate next year over the terms of separation. "It's a matter of this political uncertainty that clouds the outlook for growth," Draghi said.

U.S. Treasury Secretary Jacob Lew urged the IMF to "more boldly and forcefully" push member countries to pursue all economic policy options to spur growth.

The Obama administration has appealed to countries such as Germany, which are running budget or trade surpluses, to increase spending and stimulate global demand.

"We must not close ourselves off to the world, but rather redouble our commitment to ensuring shared growth," Lew said.

China criticizes European import duties on steel

BEIJING (AP) -- China has accused the European Union of hurting competition by imposing anti-dumping duties on Chinese steel, ratcheting up growing global tensions over a flood of low-cost Chinese exports.

The EU duties announced Friday are the latest in a series of measures taken by Europe, the United States and other trading partners in response to what they say are improperly low prices for Chinese steel. They complain the flood of Chinese exports is depressing global prices, hurting foreign competitors and wiping out jobs.

A Commerce Ministry statement said Chinese steel exports could not affect prices because they account for just 5 percent of the European market.

"Rashly taking such wrong steps as trade protection and restricting fair market competition is not the right direction for development of the European Union steel industry," said the statement, dated Saturday.

The latest EU duties apply to hot-rolled steel, which is used in construction, shipbuilding and pipelines, and heavy steel plates used in construction and manufacturing of earth movers and other heavy equipment. The charges range from 65.1 percent to 73.7 percent for heavy plates and 13.2 percent to 22.6 percent for hot-rolled steel.

Steel is one of a series of Chinese industries in which production grew rapidly over the past decade until supply exceeded demand, depressing prices and leaving a backlog of unsold goods.

Beijing has ordered state banks to lend to support steel exports, which has fueled complaints it is selling at prices below market levels in violation of its trading commitments.

The United States earlier imposed anti-dumping duties of up to 522 percent on Chinese steel imports to offset what regulators said are improper subsidies to producers.

Gas prices up 4 cents to $2.29 a gallon

CAMARILLO, Calif. (AP) -- The average price of gasoline in the U.S. has risen four cents over the past two weeks to $2.29 a gallon for regular grade.

Industry analyst Trilby Lundberg said Sunday that retailers and refiners have upped their prices in response to a rise in the cost of crude oil.

Gas prices are up 13 cents over nine weeks.

The Lundberg Survey found the average price of midgrade gasoline was $2.56 a gallon while premium was $2.78.

The highest average price for regular gas in the contiguous U.S. was $2.80 in San Francisco. The lowest was $1.97 in Tucson, Arizona.

The average price for diesel in Friday's survey was $2.42, up three cents.

Nation

90 minutes of fire: Trump, Clinton trade charges, insults

ST. LOUIS (AP)—In a bitter debate filled with tension and insult, Hillary Clinton declared that Donald Trump's vulgar comments about women reveal "exactly who he is" and prove his unsuitability to be president. Firing back, he accused her of attacking women involved in Bill Clinton's extramarital affairs and promised she would "be in jail" if he were president.

Trump, who entered Sunday night's debate desperate to steady his floundering campaign, unleashed a barrage of attacks and continually interrupted Clinton. He repeatedly called her a "liar," labeled her the "devil" and contended she had "tremendous hate in her heart."

On one substantive matter, he acknowledged for the first time that he had paid no federal income taxes for many years.

The debate was the culmination of a stunning stretch in the race for the White House, which began with the release of a new video in which Trump is heard bragging about how his fame allowed him to "do anything" to women. Many Republicans rushed to revoke their support, with some calling for him to drop out of the race.

Answering for his words for the first time, Trump denied he had ever kissed and grabbed women without their consent. He said repeatedly that his words in 2005 were merely "locker room talk" and paled in comparison to what he called Bill Clinton's abuse of women.

"She should be ashamed of herself," Trump declared. Ahead of the debate, the businessman met with three women who accused the former president of sexual harassment and even rape, then invited them to sit in the debate hall.

Bill Clinton never faced any criminal charges in relation to the allegations, and a lawsuit over an alleged rape was dismissed. He did settle a lawsuit with one of the women who claimed harassment.

On the debate stage, Clinton did not respond directly to Trump's accusations about her husband or her own role, but was blistering in her condemnation of his predatory comments about women in the tape released Friday.

"I think it's clear to anyone who heard him that it represents exactly who he is," she said, adding that she did not believe Trump had the "fitness to serve" as commander in chief.

The second debate was a town hall format, with several undecided voters sitting on stage with the candidates. The voters, all from the St. Louis area, were selected by Gallup.

The tension between Trump and Clinton was palpable from the start of their 90-minute debate, the second time they have faced off in the presidential campaign. They did not shake hands as they met at center stage.

Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump listens to Democratic presidential nominee Hillary Clinton during the second presidential debate at Washington University in St. Louis, Sunday, Oct. 9, 2016. AP

Trump, who is several inches taller than Clinton, stood close behind her as she answered questions from the voters. At other times, he paced the stage, repeatedly interrupting her and criticizing the moderators.

Trump struggled at times to articulate detailed policy proposals, repeatedly dancing around questions about how he would replace President Barack Obama's health care law, a measure he has vowed to repeal. But he leveled several charges against Clinton that will likely energize his supporters, including saying she should have been criminally charged for her controversial email practices at the State Department.

In a rare public break with his running mate, Trump made clear he did not agree with Mike Pence on how to deal with war-torn Syria. Last week, Pence said the U.S. military should be ready to strike Syrian military targets that are under the command of President Bashar Assad. The threat of military action against the Russia-backed Assad government marks a departure from Trump's preference for a focus on Islamic State targets.

Said Trump, "He and I haven't spoken and I disagree."

Trump's campaign was already struggling before the new video was released, due in part to his uneven performance in the first presidential debate. Many Republicans saw Sunday's showdown as his last best chance to salvage his campaign.

It was unclear whether Trump's performance did anything to expand his support beyond his core backers. He did repeatedly cast Clinton as a career politician who had accomplished little during her years in Washington and would be incapable of bringing about change, one of his strongest arguments in a campaign that has highlighted American's deep frustration.

Rescues and worry after Matthew inundates North Carolina

FAYETTEVILLE, N.C. (AP) -- When Hurricane Matthew dumped torrential rains on North Carolina, thousands of people found themselves suddenly trapped in homes and cars. Rescuers in Coast Guard helicopters plucked some of them from rooftops and used military vehicles to reach others, including a woman who held on to a tree for three hours after her car was overrun by flood waters.

In another dramatic rescue, a woman with her small child perched on the roof of her car had to be helped to safety as the waters rose around them, underscoring how quickly Matthew wreaked havoc 100 miles or more inland after sparing much of the Southeastern coast the catastrophic damage once feared.

The storm killed more than 500 people in Haiti and at least 18 in the U.S. - nearly half of them in North Carolina. Most were swept away by flood waters.

Gov. Pat McCrory said authorities were searching for five people and feared they may find more victims. The problems were far from over as all that rain - more than a foot in places - flows into rivers and downstream, likely causing days of major flooding in many of the same places devastated by a similar deluge from Hurricane Floyd in 1999.

"Hurricane Matthew is off the map. But it is still with us. And it is still deadly," McCrory said.

Princeville, a town of 2,000 that disappeared in the waters of the Tar River during Floyd, was evacuated Sunday as the river was expected to rise to 17 feet above flood stage by late Monday - a level not seen since Floyd. McCrory expected more evacuations as some rivers were predicted to crest next Friday.

David Bullock's sister called him as he bought lottery tickets to tell him police were knocking on doors saying they had to go. He rebuilt his home after the 1999 flood.

"If I get flooded again, I can't take it. I can't go back and take the expense. If I get flooded again I'm going to say, 'it's yours, I'm gone,'" Bullock said.

More than a million people in South Carolina and North Carolina were without power, and at least four separate sections of Interstate 95 - the main artery linking the East Coast from Florida to Maine - were closed in North Carolina.

The ferocity of the rain caught people by surprise. Ezekiel Crowe, 10, escaped the floods in Fayetteville on Saturday with his parents and seven brothers and sisters when a police boat plucked them from an apartment as the waters rose.

"I was scared. I was scared. And I thought, I thought the world was going to end. But it didn't," he said.

In Wilson County, rescuers were called when a 63-year-old woman didn't make it home from work. They heard her cries for help while riding on top of a Humvee, and when they couldn't get her with a rope, a National Guard soldier swam to her, staying until a rescue boat arrived, Emergency Management Director Gordon Deno, said.

Even animals had to be saved. WRAL-TV showed a dog swimming around floodwaters Saturday. McCrory said he and his wife were riveted by the coverage and relieved to find out from the Coast Guard that the dog managed to get into a tree and rescue it.

The rainfall totals were staggering: Nearly 15 inches in Fayetteville and 8 inches in Raleigh. McCrory warned that cities along rivers in eastern North Carolina needed to be prepared for days of flooding. The Lumber River in Lumberton was 4 feet above its record level Sunday afternoon and was forecast to remain there for at least five days.

Shortly before daybreak, the hurricane was downgraded to a post-tropical cyclone. As of 2 p.m. EDT, the storm was centered about 150 miles east of Cape Hatteras, North Carolina, moving out to sea. It still had hurricane-force winds of 75 mph.

Worst 5 storms

Hurricane Katrina was the most expensive in U.S. history, costing $105.8 billion, but the deadliest was the Great Galveston Hurricane of 1900

Costliest

Rank	Name	Year	Category	Damage
1.	Katrina	2005	3	$108 billion
2.	Sandy	2012	2	$50
3.	Ike	2008	2	$29.5
4.	Andrew	1992	5	$26.5
5.	Wilma	2005	3	$21

Deadliest

Rank	Name	Year	Category	Fatalities
1.	Galveston Hurricane	1900	4	8,000
2.	FL (Lake Okeechobee)	1928	4	2,500
3.	Katrina	2005	3	1,200
4.	LA (Cheniere Caminanda)	1893	4	1,100-1,400
5.	SC/GA (Sea Islands)	1893	3	1,000-2,000

Hurricanes were officially named by the National Hurricane Center starting in 1953. All the storms had female names until 1978.

Source: Weatherunderground, NOAA Graphic: Staff, Tribune News Service

Asia

Afghan army helicopter crashes in north Afghanistan; 8 dead

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—Eight Afghan soldiers were killed early Sunday morning when a military helicopter crashed in northern Baghlan province, officials said.

Afghan Defense Ministry spokesman Dawlat Waziri said that five crew members and three army soldiers were killed in the crash.

The crash took place in Dand Ghori district while the helicopter was supplying a military base, he said. Waziri blamed a technical problem with the aircraft and said he rejected any claims by insurgents to have downed the helicopter.

One helicopter was on the ground while a second was patrolling in the air above, when "suddenly a technical problem caused the helicopter to catch fire and hit the ground," Waziri said.

However, Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid issued a statement claiming responsibility for downing the helicopter, saying the aircraft was shot down by fighters.

Two provincial officials in Baghlan also said the helicopter had been shot down by insurgents while it was supplying the military base with food, water and ammunition.

Qarghan Tapa base has been surrounded by insurgents for a week, leaving more than a hundred soldiers trapped inside, according to the officials. They said all roads to the base have been shut off by the insurgents and the only way to supply them is by air.

The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to brief the press.

Mahmood Haqmal, spokesman for Baghlan's governor, said that Taliban gunmen have stepped up their attacks in Dand Ghori and Baghlan-e Murkazi districts. Some civilians have been displaced by the fighting, he said.

Taliban insurgents have increased their attacks on Afghan security forces in northern Baghlan and neighboring Kunduz province in recent weeks. The Taliban are still managing to hold out in the northern city of Kunduz as fighting there continues for the seventh day since the insurgents launched an all-out assault.

Ailing Thai king undergoes blood purification

BANGKOK (AP)—The Thai king's health appears to have deteriorated further, according to royal medical bulletin that says he underwent a procedure to purify his blood amid other physiological complications related to the heart.

A statement issued late Sunday said doctors performed a hemodialysis on King Bhumibol Adulyadej to purify his blood. It said the doctors also changed a tube that drains excess cerebrospinal fluid during a 2-½ hour procedure.

"The medical team are watching his symptoms and giving treatments carefully because the overall symptoms of his sickness are still not stable," the statement said.

Previous statements have said the king's kidneys are not functioning properly.

The world's longest reigning monarch, who will turn 89 on Dec. 5, has been hospitalized for much of the past decade. Because Bhumibol has been king since 1946, there is great concern about his eventual succession by Crown Prince Vajiralongkorn, who has not earned the same respect as his father.

Sunday's statement said that the hemodialysis procedure and the replacement of the tube were carried out on Saturday.

After that procedure, his blood pressure dropped, which was brought back to normal after he was put on a ventilator and administered medicines.

Early Sunday, the king's pulse was faster and an inspection found higher levels of acid in the blood, the statement said. An echocardiogram found a sharp drop in blood injected into the lower left chamber of his heart as a result of high blood pressure in the lungs.

AP

In this Thursday, June 9, 2016, file photo, with a portrait of Thailand's King Bhumibol Adulyadej, people pray outside the Grand Palace during the celebrations marking the 70th anniversary of his accession to the throne in Bangkok.

US, Afghan forces kill Sri Lanka cricket team attack leader

DERA ISMAIL KHAN, Pakistan (AP)—A Pakistani militant linked to a number of high-profile attacks was killed in a joint Afghan-U.S. special forces operation in eastern Afghanistan, Afghan police officials and Taliban commanders said Sunday.

Qari Ajmal, allegedly responsible for several militant attacks in Pakistan, was killed in Afghanistan's Paktika province, three Taliban commanders said. The operation started at midnight and lasted until early Saturday morning, they said. All three spoke on condition of anonymity for fear of retribution.

Ajmal, a leader of the banned al-Qaida-linked Pakistani sectarian group Lashkar-e-Jhangi, was wanted for major attacks, most notably one on the Sri Lankan cricket team in 2009 that killed six police officers and wounded seven players.

Paktika police chief Gen. Khalil Ziayee confirmed the operation, saying one militant was killed and three arrested. He gave no further details.

Brig. Gen. Charles Cleveland, the U.S. military spokesman in Afghanistan, also confirmed the operation but did not say which militants were targeted. "Afghan and U.S. forces did conduct a counter-terrorism operation in Paktika," he said, but added that for security reasons "we do not discuss the details of counter-terror operations."

Pakistan and Afghanistan share a sizable lawless border region, which serves as a safe haven for local and al-Qaida-linked foreign Islamic militants. They routinely shuttle back and forth across the border to evade security forces.

Taiwan president says won't bow to Beijing, calls for talks

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP)—Taiwan's new president Tsai Ing-wen said Monday her self-ruled island will not bow to Beijing's pressure and that China should recognize her government's existence and engage with it in talks, in remarks likely to further anger China.

Speaking in a National Day address, Tsai acknowledged that ties between Taiwan and China in recent months have been bumpy.

"But we will not bow to pressure, and we will of course not revert to the old path of confrontation," she said at a ceremony outside the presidential offices in central Taipei attended by 11,000 people, including more than 360 foreign guests.

China should "face up to the reality" of the Taiwanese government's existence and of the island's democracy, Tsai said, adding the two sides should "sit down and talk as soon as possible."

China claims Taiwan is its own territory, to be brought under its control by force if necessary. Tsai's election in January upended Beijing's strategy of using economic inducements to convince Taiwanese that political unification is not only inevitable but also in their best interests.

In her address, Tsai said her government wanted to maintain the status quo - referring to the state of tense but stable peace and robust economic exchanges between the sides. However, China has said it isn't satisfied with that position and demands she endorse Beijing's formulation that the two are part of a single Chinese nation.

Major Australian party leaders reaffirm their racial tolerance

CANBERRA, Australia (AP)—The leaders of Australia's two major political parties on Monday reaffirmed their commitment to racial tolerance in Australia after several senators called for a ban on Muslim immigration.

Prime Minister Malcom Turnbull introduced an anti-racial discrimination motion to the House of Representatives at the request of opposition leader Bill Shorten.

A similar motion was passed by the lower chamber 20 years ago after Pauline Hanson, then an independent lawmaker, used her first speech to Parliament to warn that Australia was "in danger of being swamped by Asians" due to the nation's non-discriminatory immigration policy.

Hanson was elected to the Senate in July after 18 years out of Parliament. The four senators in her One Nation party now want an end to Muslim immigration.

Turnbull told Parliament that terrorists want the wider Australian community to turn against Muslims, who account for 2.2 percent of Australian population of 24 million people.

"The most effective weapon against the terrorists is an inclusive nation," Turnbull said. "An inclusive nation is a safe nation."

Shorten said his center-left Labor Party had a shared interest with Turnbull's conservative Liberal Party interest in rejecting racial intolerance.

"Attacks on minorities are always weaker when we in this Parliament set a better example and show the way," Shorten said. "We are not being swamped by anyone."

The motion that commits Australia to the non-discriminatory immigration policy that has existed since the 1970s will be debated Tuesday.

Former Chinese provincial party lawmaker is sentenced to death

BEIJING (AP)—A former Chinese provincial Communist Party boss was sentenced to death with a two-year reprieve Sunday as part of the country's ongoing crackdown on corruption at all levels.

The Anyang City Intermediate People's Court in Henan Province said Bai Enpei was found guilty of taking "a huge amount of bribes" and possessing a large amount of income from unidentified sources.

Bai had been a senior lawmaker with the national legislature and formerly served as the top-ranking official in the western provinces of Qinghai and Yunnan. His entire personal assets were also confiscated and he was barred from ever again holding office.

Suspended death sentences in China are usually reverted to life imprisonment after two years with good behavior.

Chinese President Xi Jinping has vowed to end corruption and government waste, although critics have accused him of using the campaign to attack political rivals.

Thousands of officeholders have been investigated as part of the campaign, and some Chinese have complained that the drive has resulted in bureaucratic paralysis as officials refuse to perform certain standard tasks out of fear of being accused of bribe-taking.

Two other former high-ranking officials, Zhou Benshun and Yang Dongliang, have also been formally charged with corruption, China's official Xinhua News Agency reported Sunday, citing the state prosecutor's office.

Zhou had been party boss of Hebei province, just outside Beijing, while Yang had led the State Administration of Work Safety.

Both were charged with taking bribes. Yang was also accused of embezzling public assets.

World

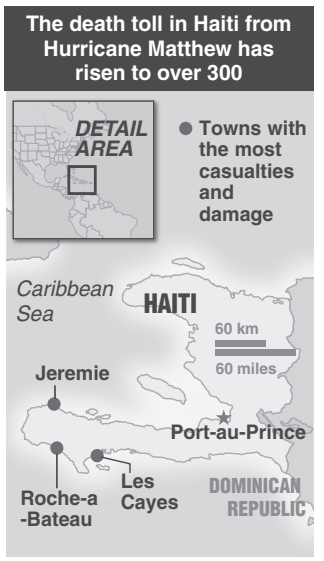
Aid arrives in Haiti, but desperation grows in cut-off towns

JEREMIE, Haiti (AP)—Helicopters are ferrying in food and medicine to devastated southwestern Haiti, but almost a week after Hurricane Matthew's assault life here is still far from normal and desperation is growing in communities where aid has yet to arrive.

Power is still out, water and food are scarce, and officials say that young men in villages along the road between the hard-hit cities of Les Cayes and Jeremie are putting up blockades of rocks and broken branches to halt convoys of vehicles bringing relief supplies.

"They are seeing these convoys coming through with supplies and they aren't stopping. They are hungry and thirsty and some are getting angry," said Dony St. Germain, an official with El Shaddai Ministries International.

A convoy carrying food, water and medications was attacked by gunmen in a remote valley where there had been a bad mudslide, said Frednel Kedler, the coordinator for the Civil Protection Agency in Grand-Anse department. He said authorities will try to reach marooned and desperate communities west of Jeremie on Monday.



Source: AP, BBC
Graphic: Tribune News Service

Throughout Haiti's southwestern peninsula, people were digging themselves out from the wreckage of the storm, which killed hundreds, destroyed tens of thousands of houses, left at least 350,000 people in need assistance and raised concerns of a surge in cholera cases.

Guillaume Silvera, a senior official with the Civil Protection Agency in storm-blasted Grand-Anse, which includes Jeremie, said at least 522 deaths were confirmed there alone - not including people in several remote communities still marooned by collapsed roads and bridges.

The National Civil Protection headquarters in Port-au-Prince, meanwhile, said its official count for the whole country was 336, which included 191 deaths in Grand-Anse.

AP

A resident walks amidst damaged buildings and debris in a seaside fishing neighborhood almost completely destroyed by Hurricane Matthew, in Port Salut, Haiti, Sunday, Oct. 9, 2016

In the seaside community of Port Salut, teacher Joseph Jean Moren stood on his neighbor's porch and gestured at a pile of mud-caked mattresses, clothes and books along with the remains of a concrete foundation.

"That was my home" the 43-year-old said.

The house had been about 200 yards (meters) from the ocean on the night of the storm. He and his wife and six children had gone to his neighbor's house, which had a higher foundation. The storm surge brought in massive waves of saltwater, wiping out their house as they watched over the course of about four hours.

People in Port Salut and Les Cayes said little to no aid had reached them by Sunday. Besides food and water, they need clothing and especially shoes because many have cut their feet or stepped on old nails because so much debris is scattered about.

"I lost everything. See what I have on? Somebody gave it to me," said Merlaine Chere in Port Salut. She showed off a wound from stepping on a nail and said she had been denied treatment at a local hospital because it demanded a $150 payment she didn't have.

18 killed in PKK car bomb in southeast Turkey; 27 wounded

ISTANBUL (AP)—Kurdish militants detonated a car bomb Sunday outside a military checkpoint in southeast Turkey, killing ten soldiers and eight civilians, the prime minister said. Turkey immediately launched a military operation against the rebels in response.

Prime Minister Binali Yildirim gave the death toll during a press conference in Istanbul and condemned the attack.

"For the stability of our country, we will continue doing everything we can to save our homeland and our nation from the forces of terrorism," he said.

Cuneyit Orhan Toprak, governor of Hakkari province where the attack took place, told that private news channel NTV that 27 others wounded in the attack were rushed to nearby hospitals for treatment. Eleven of them were soldiers, the Turkish military said.

Turkey's state-run Anadolu Agency, citing a statement by the Turkish Armed Forces, said the attack occurred at 9:45 a.m. outside a Gendarmerie checkpoint on the Semdinli-Yuksekova highway and was the work of the Kurdistan Workers' Party, or PKK. The checkpoint is 20 kilometers (12 miles) from the town of Semdinli.

Toprak said the attackers first opened fire on the soldiers at the checkpoint to distract them before driving up a minivan containing about 5 tons of explosives and detonating it. The explosion produced a crater 15 meters (50 feet) wide and 7 meters (23 feet) deep. An infantry station located behind the checkpoint also suffered heavy damage.

Turkish authorities imposed a temporary blackout on coverage of the attack, citing public order and national security reasons.

Energy Minister Berat Albayrak condemned the attack during a speech in Istanbul.

"I would like to remind all friendly countries that there is great need to take a common stance and display solidarity against terrorism," he said.

White House National Security Council spokesperson Ned Price condemned the attack on the military checkpoint, calling it "just the latest in a deeply concerning trend of increasing violence by the PKK."

"We remain steadfast in our support for our NATO ally, Turkey, and reaffirm our commitment to continue working together to defeat all forms of terrorism," Price said in a statement released Sunday night.

Ethiopia declares state of emergency to stop protests

ADDIS ABABA, Ethiopia (AP)—The Ethiopian government has declared a state of emergency effective immediately following a week of anti-government violence that resulted in deaths and property damage across the country, especially in the restive Oromia region.

In a televised address on Sunday morning, Ethiopia's Prime Minister Hailemariam Desalegn said the state of emergency was declared because there has been "enormous" damage to property.

"We put our citizens' safety first. Besides, we want to put an end to the damage that is being carried out against infrastructure projects, education institutions, health centers, administration and justice buildings," said Desalegn on the state Ethiopian Broadcasting Corporation.

"The recent developments in Ethiopia have put the integrity of the nation at risk," he said.

"The state of emergency will not breach basic human rights enshrined under the Ethiopian constitution and won't also affect diplomatic rights listed under the Vienna Convention," said Desalegn.

The internet is blocked across many parts of Ethiopia, residents reported Sunday. The government has blocked the internet for more than a week to prevent protesters from using social media to get supporters to attend demonstrations.

Major towns and cities across Ethiopia's Oromia region are experiencing unrest and widespread violent protests of people demanding wider freedoms. More than 50 people were killed on October 2 in a stampede triggered when police fired teargas and bullets to disperse protestors at the annual Irrecha thanksgiving celebration in Bishoftu town.

An American woman was killed last week when she was hit by a rock thrown by protesters. Some businesses have been targeted because of suspected links to the government, which is promoting Ethiopia as one of Africa's top-performing economies.

The state-affiliated Fana Broadcasting Corporate said the attacks on factories in Sebeta town on the outskirts of the capital, Addis Ababa, affected more than 40,000 workers. Textile, plastic, cement and bottled-water factories have been targeted.

Anti-government protests continued Sunday. Many roads into and out of the capital, Addis Ababa, are blocked by protesters and those who try to drive through are targeted by people who jump out from behind bushes and hurl rocks, witnesses told the Associated Press by phone on Sunday.

The state broadcaster said details of the state of emergency will be communicated to the public later Sunday.

"There are sufficient grounds to declare a state of emergency in Ethiopia," said Abiy Chelkeba, assistant professor of law at Mekelle University. "The situation in many areas across the Oromia region has become so severe that law enforcement agencies themselves have become targets and were attacked with a high intensity. Moreover, the constitutional order of the country has been endangered. All in all, the value systems of the constitution like a respect for the national flag and adherence to the governance system are in danger."

US forces increasing Iraq footprint ahead of Mosul operation

CAMP SWIFT, Iraq (AP)—Thirteen years ago, Chase Snow's father was among the American troops who moved into the Iraqi city of Mosul during the U.S.-led invasion that toppled Saddam Hussein. Now Snow, a U.S. Army specialist, is deployed in Iraq to help in the fight to retake the city from the Islamic State group.

The assault on Mosul, Iraq's second largest city, is bringing American forces into their most significant role in Iraq in years, in terms of numbers and presence on the front lines.

The lead-up to the assault has already brought some U.S. forces into combat with the militants. Special forces carry out raids alongside Iraqi troops inside IS-held territory around Mosul. And now as Iraqi forces prepare for the operation to retake the city, those raids have increased in frequency, according to a coalition official, who spoke on condition of anonymity as he was not authorized to brief the media.

The U.S. has also sent Apache helicopters to aid in the Mosul fight, according to the Pentagon, a step that was not taken when Iraqi forces retook the western cities of Ramadi and Fallujah.

The number of U.S. troops in Iraq has steadily grown over the past two years to now nearly 6,000 service members, up from almost none following the 2011 withdrawal from Iraq. The latest group, numbering nearly 600, began to deploy in September to Qayara air base, the facility 30 miles south of Mosul that is to be the main staging ground for the assault on the city. Trucks have been rolling in the base for weeks with supplies and equipment, preparing it so coalition warplanes will be able to operate there.

"You've got to look at Mosul as the crown jewel right now," said Maj. Gen. Gary Volesky, the head of U.S ground forces in Iraq, regarding the build-up of forces. The deployments have "all been targeted to assist in the Mosul attack."

Focus

New incidents defy Samsung's efforts to end smartphone woes

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Samsung Electronics seemed to have its smartphone troubles under control - until authorities had to evacuate a Southwest Airlines flight in Kentucky last week for an incident that involved a replacement phone.

The reason: Authorities said a Samsung smartphone started smoking and making "popping" noises, just moments after its owner had boarded the plane and turned off the device.

Passenger Brian Green, 43, says the device was a Galaxy Note 7 he had picked up from an authorized AT&T retailer Sept. 21 as a replacement for another Note 7 phone he returned when Samsung announced a global recall a week earlier. The recall came after a series of incidents last month in which Note 7 batteries overheated or caught fire. But Samsung had promised that the replacement models were safe.

Reports of more replacement phones catching fire are trickling in, and the South Korean tech giant faces more scrutiny after earlier criticism for being slow to react and sending confusing signals in the first days of the recall.

"They're in a really tricky spot," said Ben Bajarin, a tech industry analyst with the Creative Strategies research firm. "There's such a stigma around this device now that it's hard to see how sales can do well going forward."

Consider Green's reaction: "I really liked the device. It had a lot of nice features," he told The Associated Press in an interview Friday. But after the incident on the plane, he bought a new iPhone 7 from Apple, rather than take his chances with yet another Samsung Note. "At this point, I don't want to mess with it anymore."

Authorities haven't confirmed what model of Samsung phone was involved in last week's incident. A spokeswoman for the Consumer Product Safety Commission said Friday that her agency is still investigating and had no further information.

AT&T, one of the nation's largest phone retailers, said Sunday that it will stop giving customers the replacement phones.

"We're no longer exchanging new Note 7s at this time, pending further investigation of these reported incidents," A&T said in a statement.

AT&T encouraged customers with Note 7 phones to exchange them for other products. The company says it hasn't sold Note 7 phones since the initial recall was announced.

Verizon, another major seller of smartphones, said it doesn't have any Note 7 phones but they are on back order. Sprint said customers can exchange their replacement Note 7 phones for any other device while the situation is being investigated.

Meanwhile, other customers have reported problems with their replacement phones.

A Minnesota father says his daughter suffered a minor burn to her thumb when her replacement Samsung smartphone melted in her hand last week.

Andrew Zuis of Farmington, a Twin Cities suburb, said his daughter, Abby, was holding the Galaxy Note 7 in her left hand Friday when it melted. Zuis told The Associated Press on Sunday that the family had acquired the new phone on the day the replacement phones were released. There had been no problem with the original phone, he said.

"It's very fortunate Abby was not injured and was holding the phone," Zuis said. "If it was in her pocket, I think it would have been a whole different situation. I'm just very disappointed in Samsung and their product."

Zuis provided KSTP-TV with receipts showing that the family bought a Galaxy Note 7 in August and then exchanged it Sept. 21 after Samsung announced the recall.

"She's done with Note 7s right now," Zuis said of his daughter.

A Samsung representative told KSTP that an investigation is underway.

"We want to reassure our customers that we take every report seriously and we are engaged with the Zuis family to ensure we are doing everything we can for them and their daughter," the representative said in a statement.

On Saturday, Michael Klering, a Kentucky resident, said on Facebook that his exchanged Note 7 phone caught fire. Klering wrote on Facebook that he and his wife woke up because their bedroom was filling with smoke, and they feared that their children were in danger.

Klering wrote that he and his wife now have bronchitis and are being treated. He said he doesn't feel the company is taking the situation seriously enough.

Commission officials and Samsung announced a formal recall Sept. 15 after authorities said they received 92 reports of Note 7 batteries overheating in the U.S., including 26 reports of burns and 55 cases of property damage. Authorities urged consumers to turn off the phones and return them for a refund or replacement. Samsung said replacement models that were free of defects became available in this country Sept. 21.

> *"We're no longer exchanging new Note 7s at this time, pending further investigation of these reported incidents."*

After the Southwest Airlines incident, representatives of the four leading U.S. wireless carriers said customers who had already received replacement Note 7 phones could return those new devices if they have concerns.

The Galaxy Note 7, which sells for $850 to $890, competes in the high-end smartphone market with Apple, which recently released a new iPhone 7, and other premium brands such as Google's new Pixel phones.

Samsung says it has recalled about 2.5 million Note 7 devices around the world since problems emerged last month. Analysts estimated the recall would cost the South Korean tech giant as much as $1.8 billion.

Still, the company said Friday that its third-quarter profit still rose 6 percent, to about $7 billion, on total sales of $43.9 billion - thanks to income from Samsung's other products, which include advanced computer chips and high-end smartphone displays.

The Note 7 isn't Samsung's biggest seller. The company sold 76 million smartphones in the second quarter of 2016, most of them lower-priced models. Among higher-priced models, Bajarin estimated that Samsung sold well over 10 million Galaxy S7 phones, or four times as many as the Note 7, which has a digital stylus and other distinctive features.

But Bajarin said he's heard some independent manufacturers may cut production of cases and accessories for the Note 7, in light of slipping sales. He also suggested that some wireless carriers may be hesitant to promote the Note 7 heavily in their retail stores.

As for Green, the Indiana businessman told The Associated Press that he had checked to make sure the phone he got on Sept. 21 had the packaging marks and a green battery indicator that Samsung said would show it wasn't subject to the recall.

"I don't know what else you're supposed to do," he said.

A photo of the phone's packaging, which Green provided to The Associated Press, shows a black square on the label, which Samsung has said would indicate a non-defective phone. The label also has an identifying number that, when typed into Samsung's recall website, returns a message that says, "Great News! Your device is NOT in the list of affected devices."

Green said he had no problems with the replacement until Oct. 5, when the smoke caused him to pull the device from the front pocket of his jeans. After authorities ordered everyone off the plane, Green said he later saw singe marks on his jeans. An airline representative said the phone scorched the carpet where Green left the device on the airplane floor.

After speaking with authorities by phone last week, Green said he had an appointment to meet with them Monday. In a statement last week, Samsung said there was "no evidence that this incident is related to the new Note7." Samsung and AT&T representatives didn't respond Friday to a reporter's questions about how a defective phone might have been provided as a replacement after the recall.

AP

Samsung Electronics Galaxy Note 7 smartphone is displayed at a mobile phone shop in Seoul, South Korea, Monday, Oct. 10, 2016.

SAMSUNG
Leader of the pack
Annual global shipments of smart phones grew by more than 40 percent last year, and Samsung accounted for a quarter of them, according to Strategy Analytics.
Overall global shipments
In millions of units
2011 490.5
2012 700.1
Top makers
Market share for new shipments, 2012
Samsung 25.2%
Nokia 21.3
Apple 8.6
ZTE 4.6
Others 40.3
© 2013 MCT
Source: BBC
Graphic: Pat Carr

Overdrive

For 92-year-old Californian, 1966 Mustang is the ride of his life

By DAVID WHITING
THE ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER

CINDY YAMANAKA/ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER/TNS

Fifty years ago, Virgil Pletcher and his wife drove from Santa Ana to Michigan to buy this 1966 Ford Mustang. He loves the sound of the car's engine and occasionally guns it down his neighborhood street. He considers himself old school when it comes to electric cars, explaining that he prefers a combustable engine.

LAKE FOREST, Calif. — The garage door flips up at Virgil Pletcher's house and it's time to get down with one of the coolest cars ever made.

Two clues about this honey of a machine: Wilson Pickett recorded what song in what year about a man who buys a car for his girlfriend?

OK, one more hint: That girl's name was Sally.

That's right, I'm looking at a half-century-old Mustang that is almost exactly like it was the day Pletcher and his wife drove from Southern California to Michigan to buy it hot off the assembly line.

I open the maroon door, settle into the black bucket seat, shift the four-on-the-floor stick into neutral, turn the ignition key and squash the gas pedal.

"Oh, Lord," as Pickett sings, "what I say now."

PLOWBOY AT HEART

At 92, Pletcher is nearly twice as old as his favorite car. He has several.

But don't think Pletcher has a fancy garage. Far from it. Though he has a few classic cars, including a 1965 VW Beetle in need of tender love, Pletcher stays close to his roots.

Pletcher, born in 1923, grew up on an Indiana farm. By age 7, he fed chickens, gathered eggs and milked cows by hand.

By age 11, he hitched up the family's four horses and maneuvered a monster mower to cut hay in the back swath of the 118-acre farm.

"I'm an Indiana plowboy," Pletcher says during a visit at his Lake Forest home.

It was in high school when Pletcher discovered his first love —cars.

Pletcher went from a one-room schoolhouse to a regular high school —graduating class 50 —but there were no buses to ferry students. Sixteen years old and armed with a driver's license, Pletcher asked his father if he could borrow the family's 1935 Ford flathead V-8 to bus kids to school.

Oh, the job paid $1 per student per week.

Pop said you bet, and before long Pletcher was making $9 a week.

Yes, the school was just fine squeezing nine teenagers into a car, stacking kids on one another's laps. And, yes, times have changed.

When World War II broke out, Pletcher and his brother received farm deferments. But by 1944, the deferments expired and Pletcher found himself at the draft office. The clerk asked what military branch he wanted. Army, the plowboy said, anything but the Navy because he didn't know how to swim.

He was handed a document stamped with a big "N." Soon, three months of Navy boot camp were squeezed into five weeks and Pletcher found himself on a train to San Francisco.

Next stop: Guadalcanal.

"I've lived in two worlds," Pletcher says. "The farm before I was drafted, and everything after."

CALIFORNIA-BOUND

Pletcher spent his tour in the Navy working as a clerk and bouncing around various Pacific islands. Eventually, he wound up at the "Lighter-Than-Air Station," as it was known then; today it's known as the Tustin blimp base.

But what really interested him was roller skating, a mighty big pastime in the 1940s. And —not incidentally —a mighty fine way to meet mighty fine girls.

Pletcher hitched up his courage and made his way to the local roller rink. The rink is long gone, but the Navy veteran has no trouble remembering the building or recalling the months he courted his future wife, Marcheta Teter.

Eventually, Mrs. and Mr. Teter invited the young sailor over for dinner, a landmark event.

But after Pletcher was discharged, he felt duty-bound to head back to the farm to help with the heavy lifting. Soon, though, it was clear there were enough Pletchers to work the land.

The young man borrowed his brother's Pontiac and drove straight to Santa Ana.

Pletcher found a job mixing and maintaining wet plaster. It was a job he held for 42 years. The couple married and bought a home. Three daughters followed, and today all are married and remain in Orange County.

Pletcher and his wife shared a passion for singing, he as a baritone in barbershop quartets and she as a Sweet Adeline.

But all the while, Pletcher remained a car guy at heart.

He bought a Studebaker Champion nearly straight from the factory in South Bend, Ind. It cost him $1,500, and he figures the Studebaker worker he got it from paid half that.

After arriving in California, Pletcher and his wife cruised in a 1949 Ford convertible.

Later, Pletcher bought a 1954 Studebaker for its sloped racing hood.

But when the 1966 Ford Mustang came out, well, as Pickett sings, "H'uh, oh, yeah."

MUSTANG PLETCHER

As luck would have it, Pletcher's brother knew a car dealer in Dowagiac, Mich., that offered rock-bottom prices.

More luck: Pletcher's brother was a trucker for a company that shipped cars. That allowed him to haul his Pontiac to California so Pletcher and his wife could drive east.

That suited Pletcher. After all, he was the kind of man who understood the value of a dollar. Likewise, he had no need for power steering, power brakes or air conditioning.

But on the way back to California, his wife sweated in the humid, 100-degree Nebraska heat. Nearly faint, she asked to turn on the air conditioner.

Pletcher explained there was no A/C. It just clutters up the engine compartment, he said, and hurts performance.

His wife didn't buy it.

"Oh," Pletcher remembers, "she was all steamed up."

Still, both husband and wife loved the Mustang so much they drove it at least four times to visit relatives in Indiana.

Later, Pletcher spotted a 1984 Camaro Z28. He couldn't resist.

Let's just say —hypothetically, of course —that husband and wife decided on a little race. Husband climbed in the Mustang. Wife climbed in the Camaro. For a few seconds, it was a dead heat.

But, gradually, the Mustang, with its 289 cubic-inch V-8 engine packing 225 horses, pulled ahead. "From the very start," Pletcher says of the model, "the Mustang was a winner."

Today, the Camaro is gone. But the Mustang, original parts intact and chrome gleaming, still hums—just as it has for 50 years.

Problem with power module,

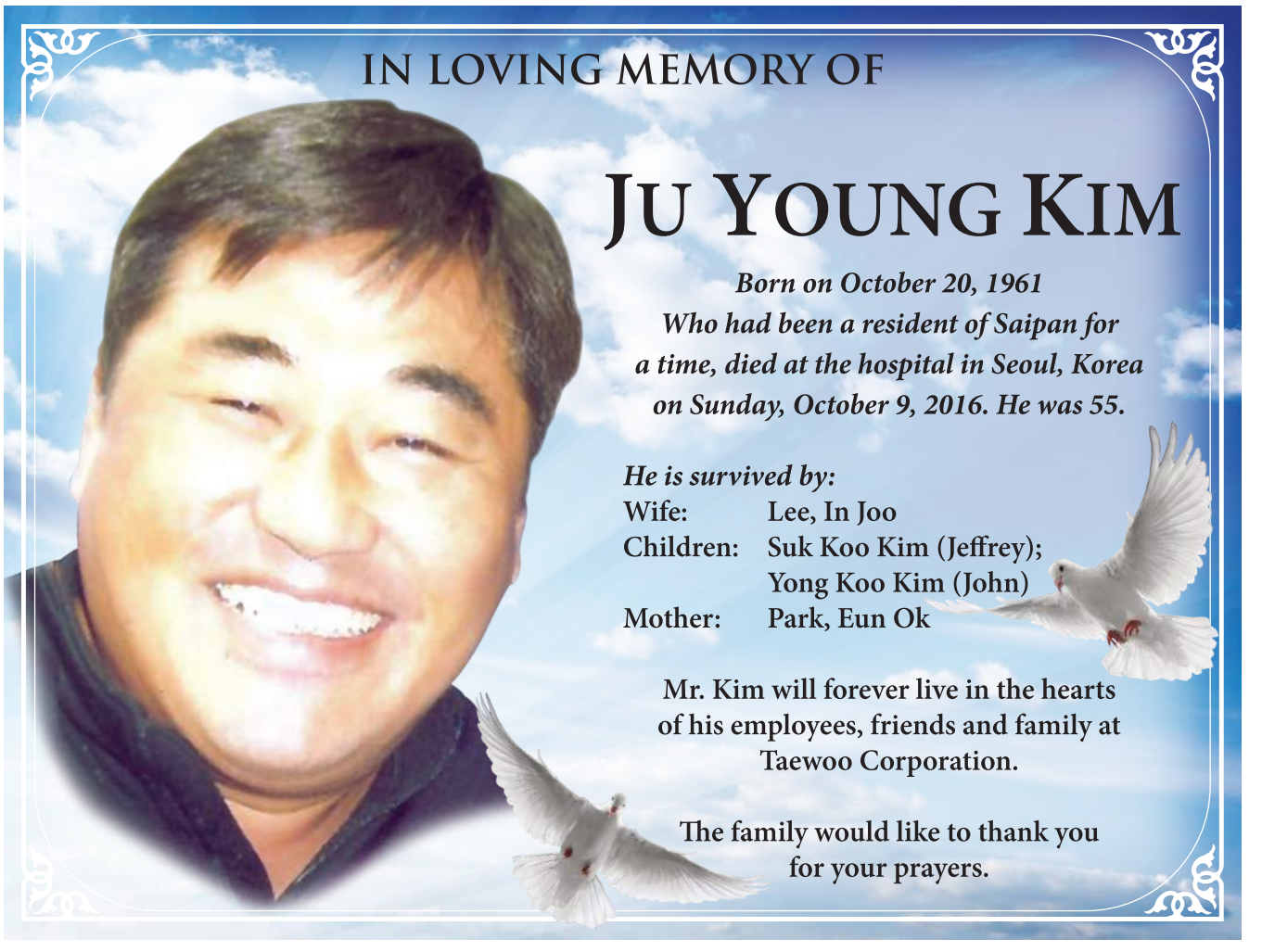
special fuse could be behind car's misbehavior

By PAUL BRAND
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

Q We own a 2006 PT Cruiser with a 2.4-liter engine. It has 50,000 miles on it. When we drive down the road, all the lights in the car's speedometer cluster come on. The lights are for oil pressure, charging system, engine temperature, brake system, seatbelt, low fuel and theft alarm. Then, all the gauges go to zero as if the car is shutting down. Last night, it did this seven times in a row until the car quit running. After I restarted the car, it did not do it again. There are no fault codes, and because the car does this intermittently, the dealer hasn't been able to identify or fix the problem.

A According to my automotive database, all electrical current for the vehicle flows through the totally integrated power module, or TIPM, which is located in the left front corner of the engine compartment. Any type of poor quality contact—corrosion, loose, frayed—to, from or inside the TIPM could cause intermittent operation like you describe, including stalling the car.

Within the TIPM is a special fuse—the ignition off draw, or IOD, fuse—which prevents battery discharge while the vehicle is not in use. To prevent battery discharge this fuse is not seated in its socket when the vehicle is shipped to the dealership for sale. If it has not been fully seated or has poor quality contacts, it could cause intermittent operation of a number of components. I would disconnect the battery, inspect and clean all connections to and from the TIPM and pull the IOD fuse to inspect and clean its contacts and socket. Then fully reseat the fuse.


IN LOVING MEMORY OF
JU YOUNG KIM
Born on October 20, 1961
Who had been a resident of Saipan for a time, died at the hospital in Seoul, Korea on Sunday, October 9, 2016. He was 55.
He is survived by:
Wife: Lee, In Joo
Children: Suk Koo Kim (Jeffrey); Yong Koo Kim (John)
Mother: Park, Eun Ok
Mr. Kim will forever live in the hearts of his employees, friends and family at Taewoo Corporation.
The family would like to thank you for your prayers.

Life & Style

Cooper, Raddatz tough during second presidential debate

NEW YORK (AP)—Moderators Anderson Cooper and Martha Raddatz teamed to ask sharp questions of Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton Sunday night and to keep them corralled during many contentious exchanges during the second presidential debate.

Sometimes those efforts drew the ire of Trump. "Nice," he said. "One on three."

That signal to his supporters is sure to subject Cooper, of CNN, and ABC's Raddatz to partisan criticism. But it seemed the dual moderators were determined to take a more active role than NBC's Lester Holt during the first debate, seen by a record 84 million people. They took questions from audience members and viewers in the town hall-style debate, and frequently interjected tough follow-ups.

After an opening question about whether the two candidates were modeling appropriate behavior, Cooper jumped in with a question to Trump about the 2005 "Access Hollywood" tape released on Friday where he was caught making lewd remarks about women.

AP

Moderators Anderson Cooper, of CNN, and Martha Raddatz, of ABC News talk to the audience before the second presidential debate at Washington University in St. Louis, Sunday, Oct. 9, 2016.

"You've bragged that you sexually assaulted women," Cooper said. "Do you understand that?"

He later asked Trump if he had done the things that he talked about on the tape, coming on to women by groping and kissing them.

"When you walked off that bus you were 59?" Raddatz later said. "Were you a different man, or did that behavior continue until just recently?"

A direct question from Cooper also compelled Trump to admit he had not paid federal income taxes in nearly 20 years.

Clinton, for her part, was questioned about her use of a private email server while secretary of state, an issue that prompted investigators to conclude she had put some top secret material at risk, although federal prosecution was not recommended.

"You don't call that extremely careless?" Raddatz said.

NBC suspends Billy Bush for role on Trump tape

Bush

NEW YORK (AP)—NBC on Sunday suspended "Today" show personality Billy Bush indefinitely after he was caught on a videotape from 2005 in a crude conversation about women with Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump.

"Today" Executive Producer Noah Oppenheim said in a memo Sunday that "there is simply no excuse for Billy's language and behavior on that tape." Bush, who hosts the third hour of the "Today" show, has been suspended "pending further review of the matter," Oppenheim said.

NBC announced its decision two days after the videotape from the "Access Hollywood" archives surfaced. Bush was a host for that show in 2005, and he was taped in a hot-mic discussion with Trump when the future presidential nominee was on a Hollywood set to make an appearance on a soap opera.

On the tape, Trump brags about kissing, groping and trying to have sex with women who were not his wife. Bush joins in, laughing at some of Trump's comments and later encouraging an actress to hug Trump.

Bush, 44, has been brutalized on his own Facebook page since the tape surfaced. Hundreds of hostile comments were attached to Bush's last posting Friday—of him distributing a plate of bacon to "Today" viewers outside of the show's studio. "You are sickening!" one woman wrote, in a comment that nearly 5,000 had "liked" through Sunday afternoon.

Angering women viewers of a show as important to NBC's bottom line as "Today" is no small matter. Many viewers upset by 2012's messy dumping of Ann Curry as "Today" host took it out on colleague Matt Lauer; the show's ratings still haven't recovered. Women make up the majority of "Today" viewers, particularly in the last two hours.

Bush has only been at "Today" for two months, where he's had a rocky start. He was the reporter to whom American swimmer Ryan Lochte lied about being robbed at the Olympics. When Bush later tried to defend Lochte on "Today," he was dressed down by colleague Al Roker.

Singer John Legend opens Ohio theater named in his honor

SPRINGFIELD, Ohio (AP)—Oscar- and Grammy-winning artist John Legend has helped dedicate an Ohio theater named in his honor.

The Springfield News-Sun Legend spoke Sunday at the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the recently renovated theater. He also performed several songs in the updated performance space.

Legend, a Springfield native, donated $500,000 for the project.

At Sunday's ceremony, the singer recalled memories of growing up and performing in the city. He said he wants to extend opportunities to young people living there.

The 680-seat John Legend Theater is housed at the Springfield Center of Innovation: The Dome.

Students from multiple districts will have the chance to use the theater and learn how to run a production.

The Dome was once a high school and is now home to several education programs.

Friend in long relationship signals she may want out

DEAR ABBY: I'm a 25-year-old lesbian from a suburban area outside the Twin Cities. It's not easy finding other gay women in this area, unless I visit Minneapolis, which I don't enjoy. I always seem to fall for straight girls or girls who have always been straight but are bi-curious, which never ends well for me.

My current situation has me stumped. The girl I'm interested in is in a relationship with a man. They have been together for a long time and have kids together. I have kept my distance for the most part because I don't want to be pushy or seem like a home-wrecker.

As we have grown closer over the past couple of months, she has told me she doesn't want to be with him anymore. She said she isn't in love with him and she's tired of pretending. Recently, she confided that she can't reach sexual satisfaction unless she thinks about women and she isn't sure what that means. She made a move on me once. A few weeks ago she kissed me, but nothing has happened since. I'm not sure what to say or do —if anything at all. Help?

NO HOME-WRECKER

DEAR NO HOME-WRECKER: What you should say to this woman is that she's sending you signals that she's interested in starting a romantic relationship, and ask her if it's true. If she says that it is, ask what she plans to do about her boyfriend. If she's unsure, you will then have to decide how you feel about becoming part of a triangle, because it could get messy. Very messy.

Between us, you would be better off if you focused on finding someone who is available and clear about her orientation. And if it means forcing yourself to go to Minneapolis, then that's what you should do.

DEAR ABBY: I have always made it a habit to keep my home neat and tidy. I'm not obsessive; we just make it a point to pick up after ourselves daily, instead of leaving everything a mess and then trying to tackle it all once every week or two. I suppose it also helps that I am child-free.

On more than one occasion, friends who visit my home have commented on how neat and clean I keep it. Some of them have asked if they could pay me to come and clean their homes. I guess a small part of me should be flattered, but I'm also offended. I feel it's the equivalent of inviting me to a party just to serve the drinks. I have no desire to become an indentured servant to my friends. Am I being too sensitive?

NOT OBSESSIVE IN NEW YORK

DEAR NOT OBSESSIVE: If you are not obsessive, then why are you obsessing over a compliment these friends were trying to pay you? I sincerely doubt they were serious, unless they began negotiating your weekly rate.

DEAR ABBY: My wife and I are in good health and have been married for more than 50 years. I would like to take our three children and their spouses on a Caribbean cruise. We all get along well, but my wife refuses to go and the kids won't go without their mom. Any suggestions?

BEWILDERED HUSBAND IN BILLINGS, MONT.

DEAR HUSBAND: I wish you had shared more information about why your wife is reluctant to take the cruise and your children are backing their mother up on this. However, since they are acting in lockstep, I suggest you come up with an alternative idea for a family outing, or take the cruise alone.

TO MY JEWISH READERS: Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement, begins at sundown. During this 24-hour period, observant Jewish people fast, engage in reflection and prayer, and formally repent for any sin that might have been committed during the previous Hebrew year. To all of you—may your fast be an easy one.

Good advice for everyone – teens to seniors – is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

DEAR ABBY

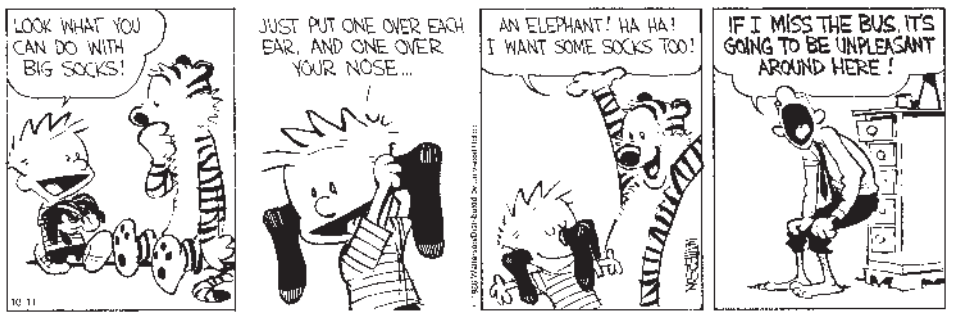
By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

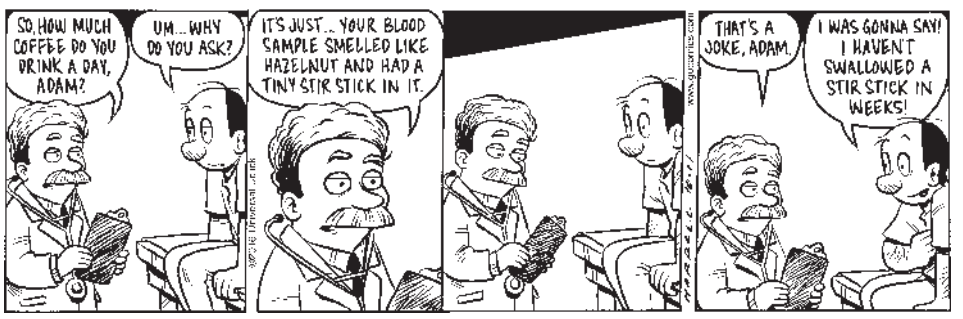

LOOK WHAT YOU CAN DO WITH BIG SOCKS!
JUST PUT ONE OVER EACH EAR, AND ONE OVER YOUR NOSE...
AN ELEPHANT! HA HA! I WANT SOME SOCKS TOO!
IF I MISS THE BUS, IT'S GOING TO BE UNPLEASANT AROUND HERE!

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


SO, HOW MUCH COFFEE DO YOU DRINK A DAY, ADAM?
UM... WHY DO YOU ASK?
IT'S JUST... YOUR BLOOD SAMPLE SMELLED LIKE HAZELNUT AND HAD A TINY STIR STICK IN IT.
THAT'S A JOKE, ADAM.
I WAS GONNA SAY! I HAVEN'T SWALLOWED A STIR STICK IN WEEKS!

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

THE ELECTION IS COMING UP AND I'M STILL UNDECIDED. NEITHER ONE IS A GOOD CHOICE, IF YOU ASK ME.
I ALWAYS ASK MYSELF "WHO HAS MY BEST INTERESTS AT HEART?"
SO WHERE DOES THAT LEAVE YOU THIS YEAR?
I'M WAITING IN THE BARTENDER.

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

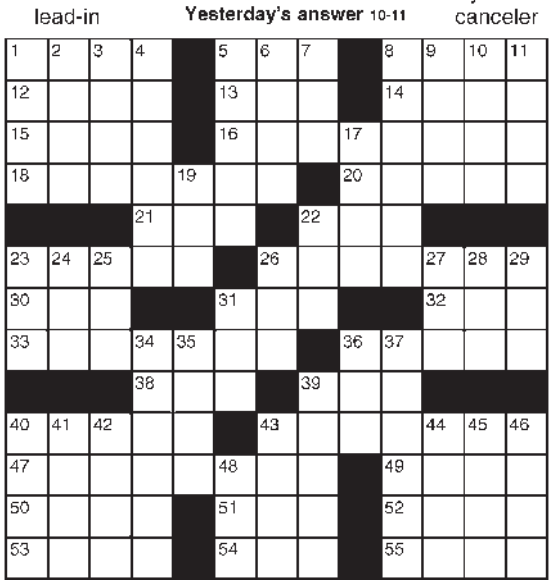
ACROSS
1 Genie's home
5 "Terrif!"
8 Amorphous mass
12 "Typee" sequel
13 Swelled head
14 Fallon predecessor
15 Arrears
16 Small songbird
18 Where the Robinsons were lost
20 Go in
21 "Rocks"
22 Twitch
23 Heron's kin
26 Ballet legend Rudolf
30 Lennon's lady
31 Likely
32 Half of bi-
33 Type of energy
36 1945 conference site
38 Carte lead-in
39 Bando of baseball
40 Hits the mall
43 How hordes move
47 Pest
49 "Wheel of Fortune" option
50 Leer at
51 Coach Parseghian
52 Kirkuk native
53 Employer
54 Guffaw
55 Citrus drinks

DOWN
1 California city
2 "So be it"
3 Unruly groups
4 Meal with a crust
5 Yard barrier
6 Chills and fever
7 Automaton, for short
8 Quick look
9 Riga resident
10 Never again?
11 Physicist Niels
17 Estate recipient
19 Revue segment
22 Boy king
23 Many millennia
24 Wildebeest
25 Sinbad's bird
26 "Fresh Air" airer
27 Actor Brynner
28 Tolkien creature
29 By way of
31 Bond rating
34 Expires
35 "Born Free" lioness
36 Candied veggie
37 The Last Frontier
39 Furtive one
40 Uppity sort
41 Quasimodo's creator
42 Monet's supply
43 Beige
44 Tater
45 Beget
46 Goals
48 Aye canceler

Solution time: 23 mins.

S	W	A	M	■	M	U	M	■	A	H	A	B
A	R	G	O	■	E	G	O	■	R	I	L	E
R	F	F	D	■	A	M	O	Y	M	A	T	F
I	N	D	E	B	T	■	T	A	I	W	A	N
■	■	■	L	A	B	S	■	P	E	A	■	■
F	L	A	I	R	A	I	E	■	S	I	O	W
B	B	Q	■	B	L	E	N	D	■	H	U	E
I	S	L	P	■	L	A	T	E	D	A	T	E
■	■	■	A	H	A	■	L	■	M	A	■	■
S	H	R	I	N	K	■	R	I	N	G	E	R
T	A	I	L	G	A	T	E	■	G	A	L	E
E	T	U	I	■	T	E	T	■	L	E	A	F
T	F	M	P	■	Y	A	Y	■	F	.	M	S

Yesterday's answer 10-11



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955!** 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Michelle Trachtenberg, 31; Trevor Donovan, 38; Matt Bomer, 39; Emily Deschanel, 40.

Happy Birthday: Expand your interests and socialize. Interacting with others will increase your knowledge and encourage you to make life changes. Don't allow frustrating situations to drag you down. Step out of your comfort zone and find a path that will help you keep moving in a positive direction. Let go of the past and move into the future. Your numbers are 3, 11, 17, 23, 26, 35, 41.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Make plans that include the people you trust. A networking function will result in good fortune and new opportunities. Do your best to keep the peace and to make your personal relationships work. ✪✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Changes can be made if undertaken for the right reasons. If you act based on emotional instability, you won't get very far. A calculated effort and follow-up will ensure that you get the results you are looking for. ✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Keep your head above water when it comes to your professional position. Take care of your responsibilities before you opt to help someone else. Protect your assets and don't offer to pay for someone else's mistake. ✪✪✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Don't be fooled by flattery. Someone will try to manipulate you to take on responsibilities that don't belong to you. Opt to get out of the house and engage in something that will add to your skills, knowledge and future prospects. ✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Share your thoughts and feelings, and you will establish how you plan to move forward. Your interest in someone who is quite different than you is likely to end up costing you emotionally or financially. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): A physical activity or competitive game will help relieve stress, allowing you to come up with an unusual but superb solution. Don't worry about competition. Follow through with your plans before sharing them. Romance is highlighted. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Get together with your peers and collaborate with the people who are trying to reach a similar goal. Playtime with children or the people you find most stimulating will be rejuvenating and instrumental in improving your personal life. ✪✪✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Trouble will surface at home if you let emotional situations flare up. You are best to address issues and find solutions before it's too late. Let your intuition guide you when dealing with personal matters and affairs of the heart. ✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Stay focused on your professional goals. Don't let arguments erupt due to people trying to convince you to take a path that doesn't interest you. Follow your heart and pick up the knowledge required to make your dream come true. ✪✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Listen carefully but don't believe everything you hear. Exaggeration will lead you to believe something that is unlikely to pan out the way you want. Trust in yourself and what you are capable of doing. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Don't let a personal matter cost you professionally, financially or in matters of personal health. Weigh the pros and cons and do what needs to be done to ensure that you make progress. A settlement or contract looks promising. ✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Make positive changes to your home, workplace and the way you live. You'll get the help you need as well as some interesting suggestions that will motivate you to improve the way you look. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are intelligent, benevolent and charming. You are progressive and convincing.

*Eugenia's website—**eugenialast.com**, Eugenia's android app @ **http://bit.ly/exhoro** and join Eugenia on **twitter/facebook/linkedin**.*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

	2		7	1	6			
7		9				3		8
3		5			8	6	1	
	4						7	
	8	2	6			5		3
6		7				9		1
			5	3	1		4	

Difficulty Level ★★ 10/11

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

6	8	2	4	7	9	1	3	5
5	4	1	6	2	3	8	7	9
3	9	7	8	1	5	6	2	4
2	7	8	9	3	1	5	4	6
9	5	4	7	6	8	3	1	2
1	3	6	2	5	4	7	9	8
4	2	5	1	8	7	9	6	3
8	1	9	3	4	6	2	5	7
7	6	3	5	9	2	4	8	1

Difficulty Level ★ 10/10

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

GRAND JURIES Solution: 12 letters

R	E	D	R	O	D	E	T	C	E	L	E	S	C	P
E	G	I	S	H	E	A	R	I	N	G	U	N	R	R
W	D	S	L	J	C	L	E	N	A	P	O	E	I	O
O	U	C	A	C	I	V	I	L	E	I	S	Z	M	S
P	J	L	I	S	T	E	N	R	T	E	W	I	I	E
U	S	O	R	H	S	R	M	C	N	S	O	T	N	C
I	U	S	T	T	U	A	I	T	E	E	R	I	A	U
N	S	U	I	A	J	V	M	C	V	A	N	C	L	T
Q	P	R	S	O	N	E	R	E	C	N	E	F	F	O
U	E	E	R	O	N	E	I	T	O	Y	G	D	I	R
I	C	I	C	T	C	L	I	O	U	C	R	I	M	E
R	T	A	C	Y	E	O	T	Ⓡ	R	I	A	U	S	A
Y	L	L	I	B	N	O	Ⓞ	P	T	N	H	A	J	C
L	N	A	M	E	R	Ⓞ	F	E	S	U	C	C	A	T
T	E	S	T	I	Ⓜ	O	N	Y	T	U	P	E	D	S

©2016 Universal Uclick www.wonderword.com Download the Wonderword Game App! 10/11

Accuse, Action, Believe, Bill, Call, Case, Charge, Citizens, Civil, Conviction, Court, Crime, Criminal, Deputy, Disclosure, Foreman, Hearing, Inquiry, Judge, Jury, Justice, Listen, Oath, Offence, Order, Panel, Power, Presentment, Prosecutor, Protect, Reacts, Room, Secrecy, Selected, Supermajority, Suspect, Sworn, Testimony, Trials

Yesterday's Answer: Dissolved

To purchase **THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, Volume 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46 or 47**, order online at: www.WonderWordBooks.com. (Contains 43 puzzles.)

CLASSIFIED ADS

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Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

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Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as $30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$15	$30
• 5-Liner	$24	$45

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

Find today's solution in classified section

MGS
MARIANAS GEOTECH SERVICES

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

POSITION: Engineering Technician

DUTIES: Perform field and/or laboratory testing, and assist in soil investigations. Tabulate, prepare, and submit written reports based on project observations and inspections. Coordinate with project managers, technicians, clients, and others regarding the construction site and requirements. Other duties as assigned by supervisor.

QUALIFICATIONS: High school diploma or equivalent, at least 3 years of relevant experience, computer proficient, and good communication skills.

Applications are available at www.marianasgeotech.com and at the Marianas Geotech Services (MGS) office in Dandan. Submit applications by **5:00 p.m. on October 21, 2016**, to Carmen Borja at admin@marianasgeotech.com or at the MGS office. For more information, please contact 234-7645.

L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. is inviting qualified individuals to apply for the following positions:

PROGRAMMER ANALYST
Associate's degree in computer science or computer programming or information technology and at least 3 years of progressive work-related experience in information technology. Must have strong practical knowledge in various programming languages, operating systems and relational databases management particularly in midrange Relational Database Management System (RDMS) environment such as SQL server. Knowledge in windows-based and web-based programming is a must.

SALES OFFICER
Provides required product information to both existing and prospective customers. Provides support to the department with regard to sales and marketing and customer service programs activities. Responsible for ensuring good relations with all its customers both existing and prospective ones.

Preferably an Associate's Degree graduate in Sales and Marketing or any related courses. Must have at least three (3) years experience in sales and marketing. Must be able to meet monthly sales targets and have extensive contacts in various industries. Manage account, prepare paper works and variety of reports to monitor & maintain contract services.

Computer literate. Above average oral and written communication skills. Must have his/her own reliable transportation. Can work flexible hours.

Applications can be obtained and submitted at L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. Human Resources Office located on the 2nd Floor, JP Center Building at Beach Road, Garapan or e-mail it to lnt_recruitment@tanholdings.com. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience. To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than 5:00pm, Tuesday, October 18, 2016.

L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
Qualified women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.

Gold Mantis Construction Decoration (CNMI),LLD
PMB 599. BOX 10000, Saipan, MP 96950
Looking for qualified U.S. Workers, please email your resume to:
goldmantiscnmi@gmail.com

JOB TITLE: Administrative Officer
NUMBER OF OPENING: 1
SALARY RANGE: $6.55 to $12 /hourly

Job Duties
- Manages and executes administrative, project, and executive support activities associated with the office of a core division or equivalent component of the company. Reporting directly to the principal executive officer of the entity, serves as principle point of administrative contact and liaison with internal and external constituencies.
- Provides and/or oversees the provision of direct staff support to the office manager. Provides specialist administrative services as appropriate in such areas as public/community relations, faculty, staff, general business administration; and/or development and relations, depending upon the functional area supported.
- Oversees and administers the day-to-day activities of the office; develops policies, procedures, and systems which ensure productive and efficient office operation.
- Provides assistance and support in problem solving, project planning and management, and development and execution of stated goals and objectives.
- Provides and/or oversees provision of staff support to the office, to include handling walk-up and phone interactions, maintaining calendars and travel arrangements, screening, analyzing, and responding to incoming correspondence, handling day-to-day problems and situations, and provision of secretarial support.
- Provides assistance in the understanding and interpretation of company policies and procedures, as appropriate, and ensures that office operations are in compliance with policy provisions and standards.
- Assists in the coordination, supervision, and completion of special projects, as appropriate.

Qualifications:
- Completed degree(s) from an accredited institution that are above the minimum education requirement may be substituted for experience on a year for year basis
- Bachelor's degree; 2 years of directly related experience managing at least one of the following functional areas: fiscal services, administration and/or human resources
- Must be able to speak, read, and write in Mandarin

Experience:
- Five years of additional work experience directly related to the duties and responsibilities specified.

Century Hotel is inviting qualified U.S. workers to apply for the following vacant positions:

(2) GENERAL MAINTENANCE
Two (2) years experience as a general maintenance worker is required, must be able to work independently, must be able to move, carry and lift up to 50 pounds, must be a team player and has good interpersonal skills, able to work flexible schedule including nights, weekends and holidays.

(1) HOUSEKEEPING CLEANER
Qualification: High school graduate or equivalent. 1 year cleaning experience in a large building complex is preferred but willing to train the right candidate. Must be able to lift and carry up to 35 pounds without any assistance. Must have attention to detail working carefully within the minimum time is essential. Able to work flexible schedule including weekends, nights, holidays and back-to-back when necessary.

(1) BARTENDER
Qualifications: High school graduate or equivalent with minimum (1) year work experience in the preparation of mixed cocktails required. Strong communication and interpersonal skills are essential. Able to work flexible hours including evenings and/or weekends.

Application may be picked up and submitted to Fiesta Resort's security office located in the South Wing. A drug test must be passed as a condition of employment.
Closing date: October 13, 2016

Century Hotel is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
Qualified Women, Minorities Veterans and persons with Disabilities are urged to apply.

HERMAN'S MODERN BAKERY
JOB VACANCIES:

(1) Food Service Worker
(1) Expediter
(1) Executive Secretary
(13) Baker
(2) Cook

Interested applicants may send their resume to sales.saipan@hermansbakery.com or pick-up an application form at our HR office in Tun Herman Pan (Airport Road)

Francisco C. Cabrera
dba Design Florist/Cabrera Funeral

Job Vacancy Announcement

(1) Funeral Service Manager

(1) Computer systems Adnministrator
- Must be graduate of any related course/degree.
- At least 2 years experience and reliable in an office functions.

All interested applicant must apply in person.
Cabrera Center Bldg.,
Beach Road, Garapan

EMPLOYMENT

3 Cook (Korean cuisine): $6.55/hr. At least 2 years of professional cooking experience in Korean cuisine required.

3 Waiter/Waitress: $6.55/hr. At least 1 year's experience required. Email resume to yul@hanmi-saipan.com.

2 Cook (Korean cuisine): $6.55/hr. At least 2 years of professional cooking experience in Korean cuisine required. Email resume to wing@hanmisaipan.com.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(2) Deckhand
with 2-3 years experience
willing to work on flexible hours.

Please send resume to
THE ROSE EMPIRE CORPORATION
PMB 2153 Box 10002, Saipan MP 96950

SM ENTERPRISES
General Contractor

WANTED

- **4 Carpenters**
- **4 Mason**
- **1 Electrician**
- **1 Plumber**

5 years experience
Rate: $7.25/hr.

Call Andy at 588-1300

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Commonwealth Zoning Board
(Zoning Office)

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY
Zoning Officer (1)

The Zoning Office is seeking qualified applicants for the position of Zoning Officer. This is a full-time position on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Duties and Responsibilities: Process permit applications including reviewing applications for compliance, tracking timelines and public notice requirements, coordinating interagency consultations, and preparing written recommendations; Conduct field surveys and inspections for compliance with the Zoning Law and to collect land use information; Educate and inform the public and applicants about the zoning program and permit requirements; Gather information to update the GIS; Maintain detailed records of all actions, using paper and electronic media; Update permit information on the database; Other duties as assigned.

Minimum Requirements: Graduation from an accredited two-year college or university with an AA Degree. The following professional experience may substitute for the AA Degree: A minimum of 3 years of experience in any combination of land use planning, zoning, public administration, public health, business management, public policy, natural resource management, environmental management, land management, or related field; Proficiency with office software including MS Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook, and Explorer. Other desired experiences include ability to drive a stick-shift car and to walk into construction sites and across rough terrain; Ability to communicate effectively orally and in writing; Ability to work flexible hours, including some evenings and weekends; Ability to speak in Chamorro or Carolinian a plus. Applicant must have a valid CNMI Driver's License.

The salary is $28,000.00. Health, life and retirement benefits are provided.

The Application for Employment and Checklist of required documents may be picked up at the Zoning Office, 2nd Floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan during regular working hours, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except CNMI holidays.

Application submittals should be addressed to Marciana D. Igitol, Zoning Planner and may be sent via e-mail to marciana.igitol@zoning.gov.mp or via Hand Delivery to the Zoning Office, located on the 2nd Floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan. Application packages must include a letter of interest, a CNMI Application for Employment, a resume, copy of diploma/certificates, and all other required documents as listed in the Employment Package. Failure to provide the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. Selected applicant will be subjected to pre-employment drug screening.

Deadline for submission of applications and required documents is no later than 4:30pm, Friday, October 28, 2016.

An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer

CTSI Logistics

LOOKING FOR A CAREER IN GUAM?

CTSI Logistics Guam is seeking for motivated, driven, and committed heavy equipment drivers.

COMMERCIAL TRACTOR DRIVER

Technical Education or High School Diploma
Must have min. three (3)yrs. experience in operation of heavy equipment

FUEL HAULING TANK TRUCK DRIVER

Technical Education or High School Diploma
Must have min. three (3) yrs. experience in operation of heavy equipment (preferably transporting petroleum products)

**Must be able to obtain the following upon arrival in Guam:*

Medical Examiners Certificate under USDOT Requirements
TWIC- Temporary Worker Identification Card
"C- Chauffeaur's" License

**Must be willing to relocate as soon as possible.*

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Blue Jays sweep Rangers to win ALDS

TORONTO (AP)—Josh Donaldson's mad dash moved the Blue Jays into the next round of the playoffs.

Donaldson raced home from second base after Rougned Odor bounced a double-play relay in the 10th inning and Toronto beat the Texas Rangers 7-6 on Sunday night to sweep their AL Division Series.

Donaldson, the reigning AL MVP, led off the 10th with a double into the right-center field gap and Matt Bush intentionally walked Edwin Encarnacion.

After Jose Bautista struck out, Russell Martin hit a grounder to shortstop Elvis Andrus, who tried to start a double play with a feed to second base. After making the turn, second baseman Odor short-hopped his throw to first baseman Mitch Moreland and the ball skipped away, allowing Donaldson to sprint home and beat Moreland's throw with a dive across the plate.

"I was at third base when the throw was being made," Donaldson said. "Once I saw (Moreland) miss the pick, I felt like I had to take a chance right there."

The wild-card Blue Jays are headed back to the AL Championship Series after beating Texas in an ALDS for a second straight year and will face the winner of the Cleveland-Boston series. The Indians lead 2-0, with Game 3 scheduled for Monday following a postponement Sunday.

Blue Jays president Mark Shapiro, who spent 24 years with Cleveland before joining Toronto last fall, said he'd already reached out to one former Indians colleague about a potential ALCS meeting.

"It's something I've tried not to think about," Shapiro said, "but I texted (Indians GM) Chris Antonetti a two-word text about 10 minutes ago: Your turn."

Toronto's bench emptied and swarmed around Donaldson near home plate after his dramatic dash, while Bush kneeled in the infield and watched the celebration. The umpires huddled to review the play at second base, but after a brief delay, the crowd of 49,555 went wild as crew chief Joe West signaled the run counted.

"You're like 'Oh gosh, let's not have a technicality ruin this moment for us right here,'" Martin said. "It was a little bit of a buzzkill at the time."

Donaldson had two doubles among his three hits and is batting .538 through four postseason games, all wins for the Blue Jays, who had to beat Baltimore in a wild-card game to get to the ALDS.

"We definitely feel good about where we're at," Donaldson said. "We're pitching well, we're playing good defense and right now we've been able to hit the homer. That's a big positive for our offense."

The Blue Jays now get four days off before the ALCS begins Friday, and they're happy to get it.

"Some people like to say a couple of days off might throw our timing off," Martin said. "I really don't believe in that. At this point in the year, a couple of days off can do wonders."

Bautista's homer and emphatic bat flip in Game 5 was the lasting image from Toronto's ALDS win over the Rangers last season. On May 15, Odor famously punched Bautista to spark a brawl in Texas, and the broadcast of Sunday's game showed a fan-made sign declaring "I would rather get punched in May than get knocked out in October."

Bush had thrown two scoreless innings in relief prior to beginning the 10th. It was the longest career outing for the 30-year-old rookie, who was crucial in the bullpen while Texas finished with the AL's best record.

Closer Roberto Osuna threw two perfect innings to get the win. His appearance capped 4 1/3 scoreless innings of one-hit ball by Toronto's bullpen after starter Aaron Sanchez allowed six runs.

Encarnacion had a two-run homer and Martin a solo shot in the first inning for Toronto, which swept a postseason series for the first time.

"Unfortunately we didn't click at the right time," Andrus said. "They hit the ball well and never let us feel comfortable."

Andrus hit a solo homer in the third and Odor added a two-run shot in the fourth. They were the only two homers of the series for Texas.

"We got cold at the worst moment," Rangers slugger Adrian Beltre said.

Moreland gave Texas a 6-5 lead with a two-run double off Joe Biagini in the sixth, but Toronto responded in the bottom half when Troy Tulowitzki scored on Jonathan Lucroy's bases-loaded passed ball.

Colby Lewis allowed five runs in two innings for Texas.

Texas has lost six straight postseason games, all to Toronto. The Rangers hadn't lost on a game-ending play since June 30 against the Yankees.

Toronto Blue Jays' Josh Donaldson slides in to score the winning run past Texas Rangers' catcher Jonathan Lucroy during the 10th inning game three American League Division Series action, in Toronto on Sunday, Oct. 9, 2016.

AP

Lobaton's HR, Murphy's RBIs lift Nats past Dodgers; NLDS tied

WASHINGTON (AP)—Leave it to little-used, light-hitting Jose Lobaton to change the complexion of the Washington Nationals' NL Division Series with one big swing.

Getting a rare chance to play because of starting catcher Wilson Ramos' late-September injury, backup Lobaton hit a three-run homer through a strong wind to erase an early deficit Sunday. Daniel Murphy provided more-expected production with two RBIs, and Washington's bullpen threw 4 2/3 scoreless innings, leading the Nationals past the Los Angeles Dodgers 5-2 in a rain-postponed Game 2 to even the series at 1-all.

"I've got to try to do something for the team," said Lobaton, who had one hit off a left-handed pitcher all season before connecting with a curveball that stayed up from LA lefty Rich Hill with two outs in the fourth inning.

"And I'm not saying that I'm going to be like Willy and hit a homer and hit .300. Play hard every day, no matter who is in and who is not," he said.

After dropping Game 1, the Nationals trailed 2-0 when Hill allowed No. 8 hitter Lobaton to put the hosts ahead for good.

"One bad pitch to a guy that I don't think anybody really thought was going to be that guy to hurt us," said Josh Reddick, who drove in a run for LA in the third off Tanner Roark after Corey Seager hit his second first-inning homer of the NLDS. "But that's what happens, and anybody can be the guy in the postseason."

Hard to imagine Lobaton would be The Guy, though.

Didn't even start the playoff opener, sitting behind rookie Pedro Severino, who had played all of 18 games in the majors.

Plus, Lobaton batted only .232 in 99 at-bats in 2016 overall, although his lone hit in 15 at-bats against left-handers coming into Sunday was also a homer, and also against the Dodgers—off Scott Kazmir in July.

This one put the Nationals ahead 3-2, finally getting to Hill—who went 4 1/3 innings—in the unlikeliest of ways. After a walk and two quick outs, he plunked Danny Espinosa for the second time; Washington's shortstop has struck out in his other five NLDS plate appearances.

That mistake proved costly when Lobaton came through, leading to chants of "N-A-T-S! Nats, Nats, Nats, Woooo!" from a sellout crowd of 43,826.

What made this big bop all the more surprising was that it went over the wall in left, where wind that topped 30 mph was blowing in much of the afternoon.

"When he hit it, there was a bunch of people in the dugout who were, like, cussing, because we didn't think he could get it out. All kinds of expletives were being thrown around," Nationals left fielder Jayson Werth said. "And then it snuck over for us. That was the game, right there."

Nationals slugger Bryce Harper's take?

"If Mother Nature wanted to keep it in the yard, then I guess she would have," the 2015 NL MVP said, "but the baseball gods overran her, I guess."

Murphy has been Washington's best hitter all season, considered a top contender for league MVP honors this year. Indeed, fans chanted those three letters after each hit as he went 3 for 3, including RBI singles in the fifth and seventh.

Five relievers made it stand up, with Mark Melancon working around a single in the ninth—the lone hit allowed by Washington's relievers—to earn the save.

Blake Treinen went 1 1/3 innings and got the win, while lefties Marc Rzepczynski, Sammy Solis and Oliver Perez combined for seven outs as manager Dusty Baker mixed and matched his 'pen just right.

"The old man knows what he's doing, I think," Werth said with a smile.

And after the NL East champion Nationals wasted plenty of opportunities to score in a 4-3 loss on Friday, it was the NL West-winning Dodgers' turn to come up short in the clutch: Los Angeles left the bases loaded three times.

In the fifth, pinch hitter Howie Kendrick sent a sinking liner to left that Werth managed to grab while sliding—then celebrated by popping up and throwing an uppercut.

"The wind pretty much had an effect on every ball that was hit out there," Werth said. "That was ball was diving, knuckling, doing all kind of stuff. Part of why I was so excited was because I was surprised I caught it."

The best-of-five series shifts to Los Angeles for Game 3 on Monday afternoon, with Game 4 there on Tuesday, creating an unusual three-consecutive-days setup in the playoffs, thanks to the loss of a travel day.

"This was pretty much a must-win game for us," Werth said. "Definitely don't want to head West down two."

Brady returns from suspension, shines in rout of Browns

CLEVELAND (AP) — Tom Brady, looking razor-sharp at times and relatively rust-free after serving his four-game "Deflategate" suspension, passed for 406 yards and three touchdowns to Martellus Bennett in his hyped return and the New England Patriots thumped the Cleveland Browns 33-13 on Sunday.

Brady was back—much to the relief of teammates and New England fans everywhere—following a ban for his role in the scandal in which an NFL investigation found the Patriots under-inflated footballs in the 2015 AFC championship game.

Brady fought Commissioner Roger Goodell's ruling for more than a year before he begrudgingly accepted his punishment.

He took out some of that built-up frustration on the Browns (0-5), throwing for 271 yards in the first half, as the Patriots (4-1) rebounded after being shut out last week at home by Buffalo.

Brady threw two short TD passes in the first half to Bennett before hooking up with his new teammate again on a 37-yarder to give the Patriots a 30-7 lead in the third quarter.

Lions 24, Eagles 23

In Detroit, Matt Prater kicked a 29-yard field goal with 1:28 left and Darius Slay made an over-the-shoulder interception on the next snap, helping the Lions hand Carson Wentz his first loss with a victory over the Eagles.

The Lions (2-3) had lost three straight.

The Eagles (3-1) turned the ball over for the first time this season with 2:34 remaining when Ryan Mathews fumbled on a hit by Slay. The loose football was recovered by Tyrunn Walker at the Philadelphia 45.

Redskins 16, Ravens 0

In Baltimore, the Redskins used an 85-yard punt return by Jamison Crowder and an uncharacteristically strong performance by their defense to beat the Ravens.

It was the third straight win for the Redskins (3-2), who came in with the league's 29th-ranked defense. Washington allowed a touchdown on the game's opening drive and smothered the Ravens (3-2) the rest of the way.

The game wasn't decided until the final minute, when an apparent 23-yard touchdown catch by Baltimore's Breshad Perriman was overturned by replay. Perriman got his right foot down in the end zone, but his left foot was out of bounds.

Cowboys 28, Bengals 14

In Arlington, Ezekiel Elliott ran for 134 yards and two touchdowns, fellow rookie Dak Prescott threw for a score and ran for another TD, and the Cowboys beat the Bengals.

Prescott had his first turnover in five games starting in place of injured Tony Romo, a fumble when being sacked late in the third quarter. But Prescott extended his NFL rookie record to 155 passes without an interception to start his career. He completed 18 of 24 passes for 227 yards.

Elliott, on only 15 carries, became the first Cowboys rookie with three consecutive 100-yard rushing games.

Falcons 23, Broncos 16

In Denver, Matt Ryan and the Atlanta Falcons didn't need another 300-yard performance from Julio Jones to decipher Denver's dazzling defense and wreck Paxton Lynch's first NFL start.

Using a steady dose of I-formation runs and short passes that put Denver's linebackers in coverage, the Falcons (4-1) handed the Super Bowl champs their first loss since Dec. 20 at Pittsburgh and left the Minnesota Vikings (5-0) as the NFL's last unbeaten team.

Steelers 31, Jets 13

In Pittsburgh, Ben Roethlisberger passed for 380 yards and four touchdowns and the surging Steelers pulled away in the second half for a win over the Jets.

Sammie Coates caught six passes for a career-high 139 yards and two scores, including a 72-yard catch-and-run for a score on Pittsburgh's opening drive as the Steelers moved the ball at will against a secondary missing injured star Darrelle Revis.

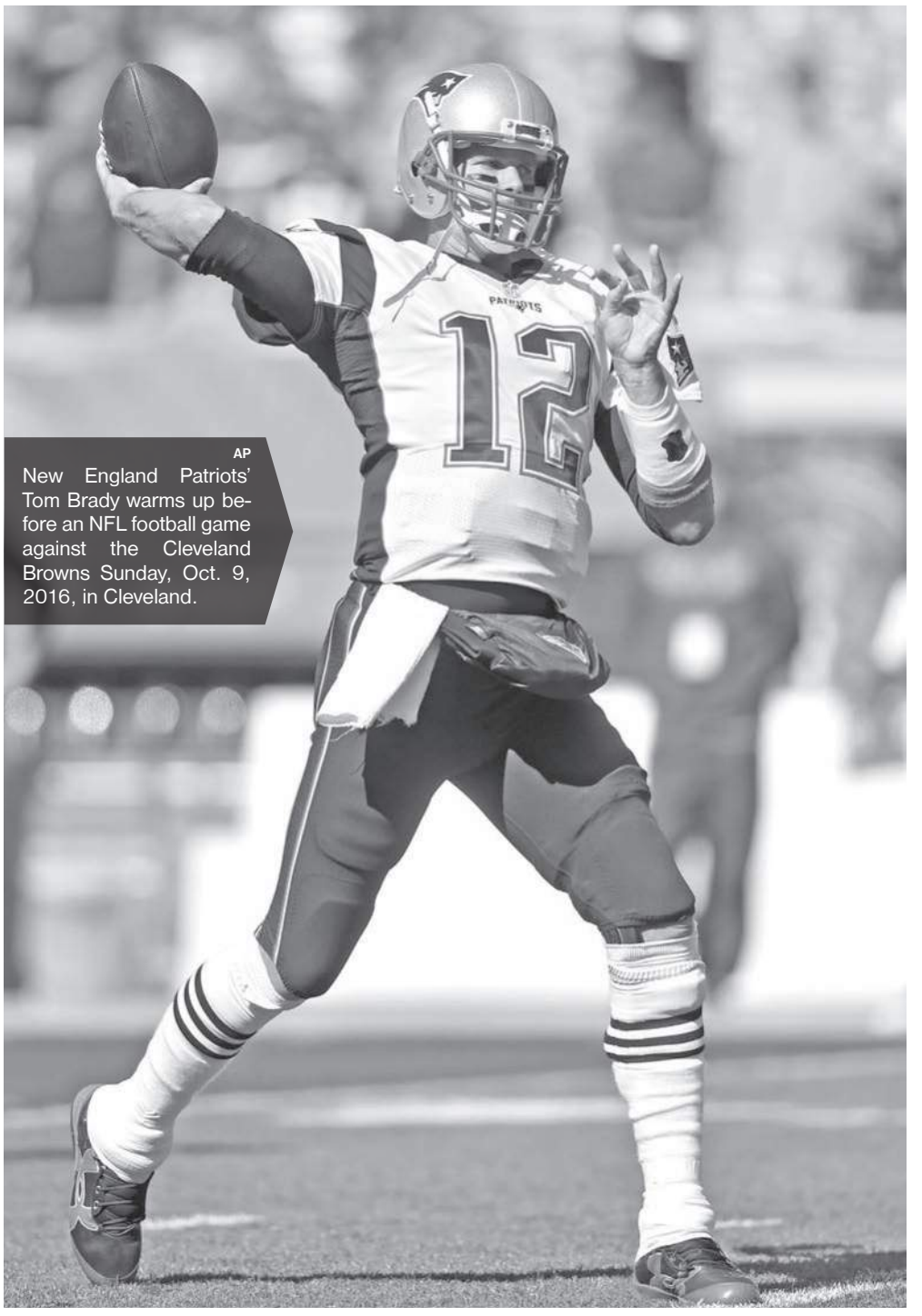
Steelers running back Le'Veon Bell racked up 154 yards of total offense, including a career-high nine receptions, while Antonio Brown caught nine passes for 78 yards and a touchdown. The All-Pro receiver, who has been fined on multiple occasions this season for crossing the line during his celebratory dances, simply handed the ball to a fan in the stands.

Bills 30, Rams 19

In Los Angeles, Nickell Robey-Coleman returned an interception 41 yards for a touchdown, LeSean McCoy rushed for 150 yards, and the Bills won their third consecutive game by defeating the Rams.

Robey-Coleman stepped in front of rookie receiver Pharoh Cooper and strolled down the sideline to put the Bills (3-2) ahead 23-16 with 3:54 left in the third quarter.

The big play allowed the Bills to finish off the Rams (3-2) and end their three-game winning streak. Robey-Coleman added another interception in the final minutes.



AP

New England Patriots' Tom Brady warms up before an NFL football game against the Cleveland Browns Sunday, Oct. 9, 2016, in Cleveland.

Raiders 34, Chargers 31

In Oakland, Derek Carr threw a go-ahead 21-yard touchdown pass to Michael Crabtree on a fourth-and-2 gamble and added another TD pass to Amari Cooper to lead the Raiders to a victory over the mistake-prone Chargers.

San Diego (1-4) committed four turnovers and then botched the hold on a potential tying field goal. Rookie Drew Kaser couldn't hold the snap on what would have been a 36-yard field goal attempt.

The Raiders (4-1) took over with 2 minutes left and ran out most of the clock to get a third straight win for the first time in five years and hand San Diego its 10th straight division loss.

Titans 30, Dolphins 17

In Miama Gardens, Marcus Mariota threw for three touchdowns and ran for another score, helping the Titans overcome a handful of big plays by the Dolphins.

Mariota bounced back with a strong game after totaling three interceptions and no TD passes in losses the past two weeks. He went 20 for 29 for 163 yards with no interceptions, and ran seven times for 60 yards.

DeMarco Murray added 121 yards rushing for the Titans, who totaled 235 on the ground. They improved to 2-3, and Miami fell to 1-4.

Vikings 31, Texans 13

In Minneapolis, Adam Thielen caught a touchdown pass to cap Minnesota's opening drive and finished with a career-high 127 yards, and the Vikings defense flustered Brock Osweiler and the Texans.

Marcus Sherels returned a punt 79 yards for a touchdown and Cordarelle Patterson scored on another sharp throw by Sam Bradford, who produced another turnover-free game and deftly guided the Vikings (5-0) into their bye week.

Brock Osweiler was overmatched by Minnesota's relentless rush and coverage, finishing 19 for 42 for 184 yards, one interception and a late touchdown pass while taking four sacks. The Texans (3-2) were denied on 12 of 13 third downs, unable or unwilling to do much other than dump off short passes.

Colts 29, Bears 23

In Indianapolis, Andrew Luck threw a 35-yard TD pass to T.Y. Hilton with 3:43 left to lead the Colts past the Bears.

It's the first time the Colts (2-3) defeated the Bears in Indianapolis.

After hearing a clamoring for changes all week, Indy went to the hurry-up offense and Luck made the alterations look good early and late.

When the Colts opened up the passing game and took shots down the field, they were efficient. When they didn't, they bogged down.

Brian Hoyer was solid in his third straight start throwing for 397 yards and two touchdowns for Chicago (1-4).

IOC calls on WADA to lead unified global anti-doping system

LAUSANNE, Switzerland (AP)—In a show of unity after sharp divisions caused by the Russian doping scandal, Olympic leaders gave the World Anti-Doping Agency increased powers Saturday to lead the fight against drug cheats and pushed ahead with plans for a separate independent body to carry out global drug-testing.

A summit of top global sports officials backed WADA to continue to oversee worldwide anti-doping efforts, upholding the agency's central role following months of strained relations caused by its call to ban Russia from the Rio de Janeiro Olympics over state-sponsored cheating.

The leaders called for WADA to lead a "more robust, more efficient, more transparent, and more harmonized" anti-doping system, and promised more funding for the cash-strapped agency if it enacts reforms.

"This is a clear commitment by the entire Olympic movement to an independent and harmonized worldwide fight by a stronger anti-doping agency," IOC President Thomas Bach said in a conference call after the closed-door, four-hour meeting at a Lausanne hotel.

The summit also supported previously announced plans for the Court of Arbitration for Sport to take over the role of imposing sanctions on doping cheats, removing the responsibility from sports federations in order to make the system more independent. CAS handled doping sanctions during the Rio Games for the first time.

But the over-arching thrust of the meeting was to give support to a reinforced WADA, which was set up by the IOC in 1999. The leaders said WADA would hold the "regulatory role" in the worldwide anti-doping fight.

"I'm very happy with it," WADA President Craig Reedie said after the meeting. "We now have a clear set of principles established by the IOC. We are to be given substantial additional authority and substantial additional powers. I am perfectly happy with that."

Italy wins late to keep pace with Spain in Group G

SKOPJE, Macedonia (AP)—Italy kept Spain from opening a significant advantage atop Group G by scoring two late goals and salvaging a 3-2 win at Macedonia on Sunday in European qualifying for the 2018 World Cup.

Spain got off to a slow start at Albania but eased to a 2-0 victory behind second-half goals by Diego Costa and Manuel "Nolito" Agudo.

Italy needed an injury-time goal by Ciro Immobile to secure the hard-fought win that allowed it to join Spain atop the group with seven points.

Albania stayed with six points along with Israel, which beat Liechtenstein 2-1.

Only the group winners automatically qualify for the World Cup in Russia.

Macedonia and Liechtenstein remain without a point after three matches.

AP

Italy's Giacomo Bonaventura, bottom, challenges Macedonia's Stefan Spirovski, center, and Daniel Mojsov, right, during their World Cup Group G qualifying soccer match at the Philip II of Macedon National Stadium in Skopje, Macedonia, on Sunday, Oct. 9, 2016.

Spain 2, Albania 0

Spain dominated from the start as expected, but it struggled to create many significant scoring chances against Albania in steady rain at the Loro Borici Stadium in Shkoder.

The first goal came after a mistake by Albanian goalkeeper Etrit Berisha, who mis-hit the ball while trying to clear it from the back and gave it to Vitolo. The striker passed to David Silva and he set up Costa's easy goal from inside the area in the 55th minute.

The second goal was a well-placed shot by Nolito, who found the far corner from a tight angle after evading a defender inside the area in the 63rd.

"It could seem like an easy game but we knew it was going to be complicated," Nolito said. "We really needed these three points."

Albania entered the match with a two-point advantage over Spain and Italy, which drew 1-1 when they met in Turin on Thursday.

Spain coach Julen Lopetegui tried a different tactical scheme, playing with three defenders at the back and an extra man in midfield.

Captain Sergio Ramos had to be replaced near the end because of a knee injury.

Spain has won all six games against Albania.

"That is a normal loss," Albania midfielder Ledian Memushaj said. "It is very difficult to play against them."

Israel 2, Liechtenstein 1

Israel picked up its second consecutive win by beating winless Liechtenstein 2-1 behind a pair of goals by Tomer Hemed.

The striker scored in the fourth and 16th minutes in the match in Jerusalem.

Maximilian Goppel pulled the visitors closer early in the second half, but Israel hung on to the victory.

Liechtenstein is proving to be the weaker team in the group after being outscored 12-1 in its first three matches.

CONCACAF to overhaul 'archaic' World Cup qualifying format

LONDON (AP)—World Cup qualifying in North America is set to be overhauled to avoid shutting out the majority of countries in the CONCACAF region so early.

CONCACAF President Victor Montagliani has instigated a review of an "archaic" format that leaves only six out of the region's 35 teams still in with a shot at qualifying for Russia in 2018.

Alongside a potential new name to replace the corruption-tainted CONCACAF brand, revamping qualifying to be more inclusive has emerged as a key objective for Montagliani after five months in charge of the confederation covering North and Central America and the Caribbean.

"Something needs to change because you can't have 85 percent of your members who are on the outside looking in two years before the World Cup," Montagliani told The Associated Press. "It doesn't make sense."

Since qualifying for the 1998 World Cup, CONCACAF has used a system where teams play home and away in early rounds. Once 12 nations are remaining there are three groups of four, which produces six teams for a final round.

The United States, Costa Rica, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, and Trinidad and Tobago are the last teams standing , chasing three of CONCACAF's automatic qualification places. Starting next month, they play each other twice in a league.

"It's great for those six teams over the next year and a bit but how about the other ones?" Montagliani said. "It's hard."

Hard for players to raise their standard and hard for teams to generate revenue to fund soccer development.

KANOA

From Page 28

penalty kick from Zapanta four minutes later broke the standoff. Kanoa went on to secure the win off an insurance from Rodwealth Espana in the 65th minute, while the Thundercats continued their silence in the second half to drop their opening game.

CNMI U16 7, CNMI Women's 2

In the first Division B match last Saturday, the CNMI Boys U16 dominated the CNMI Women's National Team.

Mark Esalan powered the CNMI Boys U16 to the easy win after firing four goals in succession. He hit his first in the 16th minute, while the last three came in the 26th, 27th, and 34th. Earlier in the seventh minute, Jonah Pohl scored the squad's first goal and the CNMI Boys U16 went on to build a 5-1 halftime advantage. Janelle Chojnacki posted the lone goal for the CNMI Women's National Team in the first half (33rd minute).

In the second half, it was the Commonwealth's female team's turn to score first when Gillian Villagomez found the back of the net in the 45th minute. However, that was the last time Villagomez and company hit the board, while the CNMI Boys U16 added two more off Anthony Fruit's penalty conversion in the 63rd and John Michael Rojas' shot three minutes later.

Shirley's FC 6, Dragon FC 1

Over at the Hopwood Junior High School Field, Shirley's FC gave Dragon FC a rude welcome in the league following the former's rout of the latter last Sunday.

Kosuke Sato led Shirley's victory as he made four goals, including the hat trick in succession. Sato registered his first goal in the 21st minute and the three straight in the 35th, 55th, and 57th. Jun Liu tallied the two other goals for Shirley's, gaining his first in the 14th minute and the last in the 31st.

Ding Yi recorded the lone goal for the debuting Dragon FC.

DIVISION A TanHoldings FC 10, Matansa FC 1

TanHoldings FC posted the most lopsided win in the opening week of the M-League after whipping Matansa in their Division A game.

Martin Jambor stood tall in TanHoldings' strong start after earning four goals. Jonathan Capayas, Shingo Suzuki, Joshua De Leon, and Ant Coles chipped in one goal apiece for TanHoldings, which got two own goals off Amzad Khan and Kamrul Kamrul's miscues. Kamrul knocked in Matansa's only goal in its opening game.

MP United 2, Sun Palace 1

In the other Division A match, MP United edged newly promoted Sun Palace.

MP United logged all two goals in the first half and hung on to the lead in the second to win its opener. Former youth player Yoshi Mafnas scored his first goal (in the 23rd minute) in MP United uniform, while another newcomer on the club Meng De Ka hit the other goal for the team in the 28th minute.

Sun Palace, which topped the spring season of Division B to move up to Division A, got its lone goal from Hyunjun Roh.

ALI'I

From Page 28

year's UFO caging allows each team to have two 40-and-under players and three masters on the court.

Despite its depleted lineup, 8th Division managed to take the early lead in the opener, 6-0, off Manabat's 4 points and a pair of charities from Dante Tabora. However, midway in the first period, Ali'i Blue Haus asserted its might and had a 19-4 windup to establish a double-digit advantage, 24-12, after the opening 10 minutes of play.

Ali'i Blue Haus nearly used all its players in the first canto with its second stringers—Ed Diaz, Mendoza, Moises, Pagarao, and Demapan—providing the spark for the team to take control of the match.

Ali'i Blue Haus went on to keep its double-figure advantage in the next two quarters as its continued to distribute the wealth, while 8th Division clearly needed extra hands to keep up with the former.

Ahead by 14 after three quarters, 63-49, Ali'i Blue Haus was a bit complacent in the last period, allowing 8th Division to mount a comeback. Lauron, Fitial, Tenorio, and Jun Tabora worked together to slice the deficit down with the former's deuce moving 8th Division within three. However, 8th Division fell short in the end, as Ali'i Blue Haus regrouped in the closing minutes and knocked in important free throws to avoid a total meltdown.

Esdrelon top-scored for Ali'i Blue Haus with his 19 points, while Pagarao chipped in 13, and the Diaz siblings contributed 12 apiece. Guiab, Moises, and Demapan combined for 20 more points for Ali'i Blue Haus.

Lauron paced 8th Division with his 21 markers, while Jun Tabora tallied 14, and Fitial contributed 12. Manabat and Tenorio also finished in double figures with 11 and 10, respectively.

Meanwhile, the UFO caging will start its two-game schedule per playing day tonight. In the first game at 6:30pm, PC Bargain/Visminda will take on Cavite, while in the second game at 8pm, Stephen's Pawnshop/NMBA will collide against BSI-Blue Eagle/SMF. Matches in the UFO league will be played every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday.

Nine teams are vying for the league championship and the list also includes Save More/MIFICPA, Maplas/Akap Pinoy, and Armatech/MDX.

Ali'i Blue Haus 82 — Esdrelon 19, Pagarao 13, T. Diaz 12, E. Diaz 12, Guiab 9, Moises 6, Demapan 5, Barbo 4, Mendoza 2.

8th Division 77 — Lauron 21, J. Tabora 14, Fitial 12, Manabat 11, Tenorio 10, Lansang 5, D. Tabora 4.

Scoring by quarters: 24-12, 41-28, 63-49, 82-77.

LEE

From Page 28

prove her rankings after advancing to the semifinals of the singles and doubles event of the Auckland tournament. In the singles event, Lee was awarded 15 points for making it to the Final Four. The CNMI's No. 1 girls U18 player had a 3-1 record in the singles division, beating New Zealand's Amelia Lawson, 6-3, 6-1, Australia's Kirijana Petreski, 6-0, 6-1, and New Zealand's Oleksandra Kalachova, 2-6, 6-3, 7-6, before bowing to Ashleigh Harvey in the semis, 1-6, 0-6.

In the doubles, Lee and her partner Ayana Rengiil of Palau were given 10 points each for barging into the Final Four round. The two Pacific Oceania player won their first two games against New Zealand's Amily Suga and Australia's Angelina Esabella Teakaraanga, 6-0, 7-5; and siblings Paige and Lauren Alter of New Zealand, 3-6, 6-3, 10-4, before missing a finals stint after losing to Kiwis' Harvey and Janvhi Clark, 3-6, 2-6 in the semis.

Counting the results in her singles and doubles games in Auckland, Lee as of Oct. 3 has posted 19-8 (singles) and 9-7 (doubles) records this year and 27-15 career singles mark and 13-14 in doubles. She also has 105 singles ranking points and 50 in doubles for 117.5 combined points.

The CNMI junior player is expected to gain more ranking points and climb up to the world rankings as results of her second tournament in Zealand have yet to be counted. Lee made it to the quarterfinals of the singles event in the ITF Waikato-Bays Under 18s Championships and marched into the semis in the doubles contest.

The second-seeded Lee and Rengiil eliminated Japan's Sophie Yamada and New Zealand's Sophie Michl, 6-1, 6-0, to gain a semis berth and challenge No. 5 seeds Chiara Di Tommaso and Ivana Popovic of Australia. The Aussies won the Final Four game last Friday, 6-2, 6-1, denying Lee and Rengiil a finals entry.

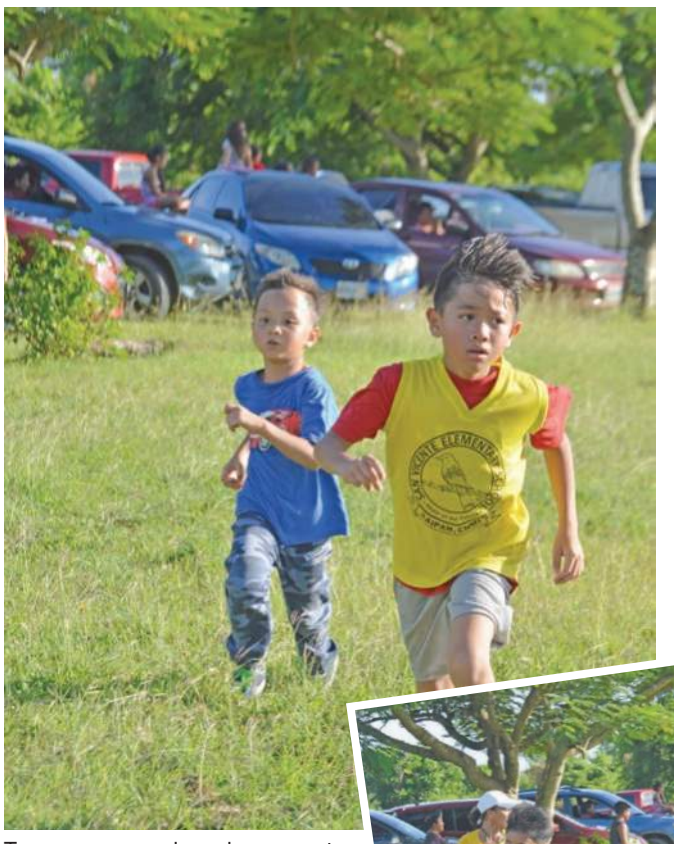
2016 NMA All Schools Cross Country Series 1

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Northern Marianas Athletics secretary general Robin Sapong gestures to runners before the start of the elementary race in the first leg of the 2016 All Schools Cross Country Series held last Saturday at the CPA Airport Field.

An U9 runner keeps his pace as he nears the finish line.

A U11 runner has his eyes to the finish line.



Two runners are in a close race to the finish line of the nearly one-mile course.

A San Vicente Elementary School runner heads to the finish line.

A small group of runners makes its way to the finish line.

San Vicente, Mt. Carmel, and Dandan students head out to the course.

Elementary school runners leave the starting line to negotiate the one-lap course.

Blue Jays sweep Rangers to win ALDS

PAGE 24

Saipan Tribune
Sports

Brady returns from suspension, shines in rout of Browns

PAGE 25

Lee moves up in world rankings

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Carol Lee, seen here competing in the Saipan-hosted ITF Juniors tournament early this year, is now ranked No. 470 in the world.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The CNMI's Carol Lee went up to the ladder after receiving ITF Juniors world ranking points from one of her two tournaments in New Zealand.

The 14-year-old Commonwealth player is now ranked at No. 470, moving more than 20 notches up after participating in the Auckland ITF Indoor Championships 2016 from Sept. 27 to Oct. 2 at the Scarbro Tennis Centre in Auckland. She left Saipan for the two Grade 5 competitions late last month and was then ranked No. 499 in the world.

She went on to im-

See LEE on Page 26

Kanoa FC wins opener vs Thundercats

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The fall season of the M-League opened over the weekend with Kanoa Football Club leading the winners list in the kick-off.

Kanoa outclassed the Thundercats, 5-3, in their Division B game last Sunday at the Oleai Sports Complex Field for a good start in the six-team field. It was a come-from-behind victory for Kanoa, as the Thundercats were on top, 3-2, at halftime.

Timothy Tawanpiy knocked in back-to-back goals for the Thundercats, while Peter Oh scored one to give their squad a shaky lead after 40 minutes of play. Tawanpiy earned his first goal of the season just three minutes into the game, which went to a deadlock 13 minutes later after Owen Ji put Kanoa on the board in the 16th minute.

Kanoa then grabbed the upper hand in the 22nd minute, thanks to Ruselle Zapanta's shot. However, the Thundercats forced the second standoff in the match when Tawanpiy retaliated in the 33rd and a minute later the Greg Borja-captained team regained the driver's seat off Oh's goal.

Another conversation from Ji in the 48th minute had the match even anew before a

See KANOA on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
The Thundercats' Hyun Joung Anh, right, uses his knee to deflect the ball, while Kanoa FC's Ruselle Zapanta stays close on defense during the second half of their Division B game in the opening week of the M-League last Sunday at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

Ali'i Blue Haus withstands 8th Division's rally in 4th

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Ali'i Blue Haus/Bayani survived 8th Division/MAFEA's fourth-quarter storm to pull off an 82-77 victory in the opening game in the 2016 UFO/IT&E Inter-Organizational Basketball League last Sunday morning at the Gilbert C. Ada Gynasium.

Ali'i Blue Haus led by double figures at the end of the first, second, and third quarters, but was threatened in the fourth when 8th Division brought down the deficit to as low as 3 points, 70-73, going into the last three minutes of the match. A timely triple from Elmer Esdrelon and four free throws in the homestretch eventually saved the day for the heavily favored Ali'i Blue Haus.

Bannered by players whose skills are still good enough to play in an open league, Ali'i Blue Haus was expected to cruise past 8th Division. Ali'i Blue Haus has brothers Ed and Tony Diaz on its roster and teaming up with Esdrelon, Junar Guiab, Ernie Moises, Edwin Santos, Sam Fernandez, and Emir Abuan. The squad is then reinforced by 40-and-under players Ivan Devero, Bart Demapan, Darwin Barbo, Manolo Manalo, and Lerio Pagarao.

8th Division, on the other hand, had a short-handed manpower (eight players) for its first match of the season. Masters players Brian Manabat, Chris Lansang, Amor Zapata, and brothers Dante and Jun Tabora joined forces with 40-and-under recruits Alex Lauron, Kelvin Fitial, and Dexter Tenorio. This

See ALI'I on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Ali'i Blue Haus/Bayani's Tony Diaz, left, unloads a fastbreak layup against 8th Division/MAFEA's Kelvin Fitial during the first quarter of the opening game in the UFO/IT&E caging last Sunday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.